

the Hippo

JANUARY 9 - 15, 2014

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LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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GRANITE VIEWS **FRED BRAMANTE**

What will your legacy be?



Fifteen years ago, I got a phone call from a young man who told me that he had formed a musical group that played on junk, stuff that would be thrown in the dump. He made music using everything from old pots and pans to empty mortar buckets. His group finished second in a talent show at Goffstown High School. He told me that many people encouraged him to keep the group going and that they had been performing at elementary schools around the state.

At Daddy's Junky Music, we interacted with thousands of musical groups. But Recycled Percussion was different. During that initial phone call, Justin Spencer, the band's leader, told me that when they perform at schools, he brings an uplifting, positive message for kids: anti-drug, anti-bullying, nonviolence. It was his message, not the music, that got me curious. I agreed to meet with them.

While the group was young, Justin spoke with a level of confidence and a commitment to make a difference in the lives of kids. I was hooked. He told me that they needed a sound system. I authorized Justin to pick out the system that he wanted. I had never done that before.

Years later, Recycled Percussion was launched to a new level by their third-place finish on *America's Got Talent*. Today, they're one of the top acts in Las Vegas.

But Justin Spencer has something else on his mind. Remember that positive message to kids that convinced me to sponsor the group? Justin is taking his uplifting message to a new level with a project called Legacy X. He is connecting with people of all ages, asking them to consider what they want their legacy to be, and asking them to commit to making it happen. He has opened a Legacy X headquarters in Las Vegas and wants to do the same in New Hampshire. Justin is a compelling messenger. He carries a powerful can-do message that resonates with many people. The legions of Legacy X followers are growing.

So, what would you want your legacy to be? What are you willing to do to achieve that legacy?

Justin and I will be traveling to some New Hampshire schools talking to students. Recycled Percussion performs at the Music Hall in Portsmouth on Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. as a fundraiser to benefit the National Center for Competency-Based Learning (tickets at the-MusicHall.org). Then, they head back to Las Vegas.

Fred Bramante is past chairman and member of the state Board of Education. As chair, he led the first full-scale education reform effort since 1919. Fred speaks and consults on education redesign to regional, state, and national organizations.



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ON THE COVER

14 So much TV to watch, so many ways to watch it. Rick Ganley cut the cable cord but devised all sorts of new ways for his family to get its TV fix. Amy Diaz went the opposite route — she took a look at the oft overlooked channels you probably don't even realize you're paying for when you subscribe to digital cable.



Also on the cover, it's Part 2 of the Hippo's four-week Look Good, Feel Great series, and this week is all about make-overs. Find out how to upgrade your looks, your online life, your kitchen and your pop culture library, starting on p. 20. Also, check out *Xanadu* at the Palace, p. 38, and find a good book for a cold winter's day, p. 62 (though you'll probably want to read Jennifer Graham's review before you add *French Women Don't Get Facelifts* to your Kindle).

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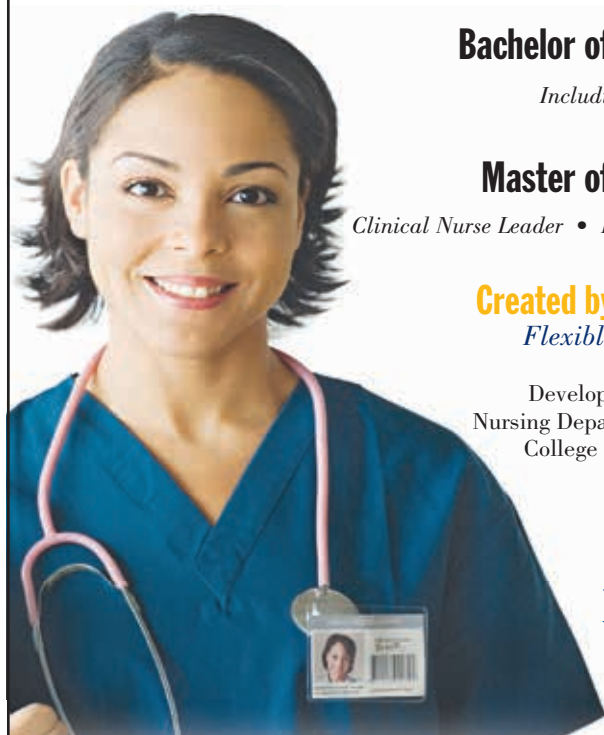
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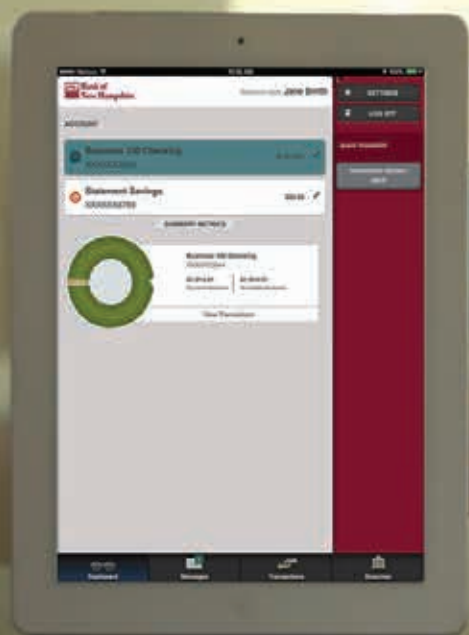
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NH residents aged 65 and older could soon receive free admission to state beaches, parks and other recreation areas. Courtesy photo.

Proposed bills

If a bill that will be considered by the House this month passes in the Legislature, New Hampshire residents **aged 65 and older will receive free admission to state recreation areas** like parks, historical sites, beaches and state-operated ski areas, according to the Associated Press. The free admission would not apply to uphill devices including ski lifts and trams or enterprise areas like the Flume Gorge. The bill would also end free admission for lawmakers, legislative staff, the governor, executive councilors and governor's staff unless the purpose of the visit was official business.

Handheld cellphone use while driving may be banned from New Hampshire if distracted driving legislation passes in the 2014 legislature session. State Reps. Sylvia Gale and Janice Schmidt have prefiled House Bill 1117 with the intention to enhance driver/rider safety, handsfreeinfo.com reported. The fine would be \$100, the same as existing texting-while-driving penalty. State Rep. Laura Pantelakos, D-Portsmouth, also has pre-filed a handheld cell phone bill (HB 1360) that would ban distracted driving in general.

The New Hampshire House will vote early this month on whether to **legalize up to one ounce of marijuana for recreational use** for anyone age 21 and older, according to an Associated Press report. The bill's supporters propose taxing marijuana when it is sold at a rate of \$30 per ounce and allowing people to grow up to six marijuana plants in a controlled environment. While proponents said that regulating and taxing the drug would provide a significant source of state revenue and

take money away from illegal operations, opponents argue that it is harmful to people's health and would be difficult to regulate, the report said. In 2013, the Senate rejected a similar bill to decriminalize possession of up to one-quarter ounce of the drug this year, and Gov. Maggie Hassan opposes decriminalization.

Text to catch fugitives

There is a new way for the public to assist the U.S. Marshals N.H. Joint Task Force in tracking down wanted fugitives. The Task Force is now able to receive anonymous tips from the public via text message or Web tip. This ability was previously unavailable and tipsters were limited to calling in tips to the Marshals Task Force directly at 603-225-1632, or their local police, according to a recent press release. The tipster and the tipster's phone number remain anonymous to law enforcement, unless the tipsters choose to identify themselves.

Special election

Gov. Maggie Hassan called a special election to fill the Executive Council District 1 seat left vacant by the death of Councilor Ray Burton. The primary election will be held Jan. 21 with a general election to follow, if necessary, on March 11, town meeting day, according to the Executive Council Office.

Dentist indicted

A Manchester dentist faces between 661½ and 1,323 years of incarceration after he was indicted on 189 counts of medical fraud last week, according to the Concord Monitor. Dr. Nicholas Marshall is alleged to have made false claims to the New Hampshire Medicaid office for

procedures performed over the past five years, including oral exams, X-rays, tooth extractions and orthopedic treatment. According to the indictments, the claims either were unjustified based on treatment records or had already been paid for through the program, the Monitor reported.

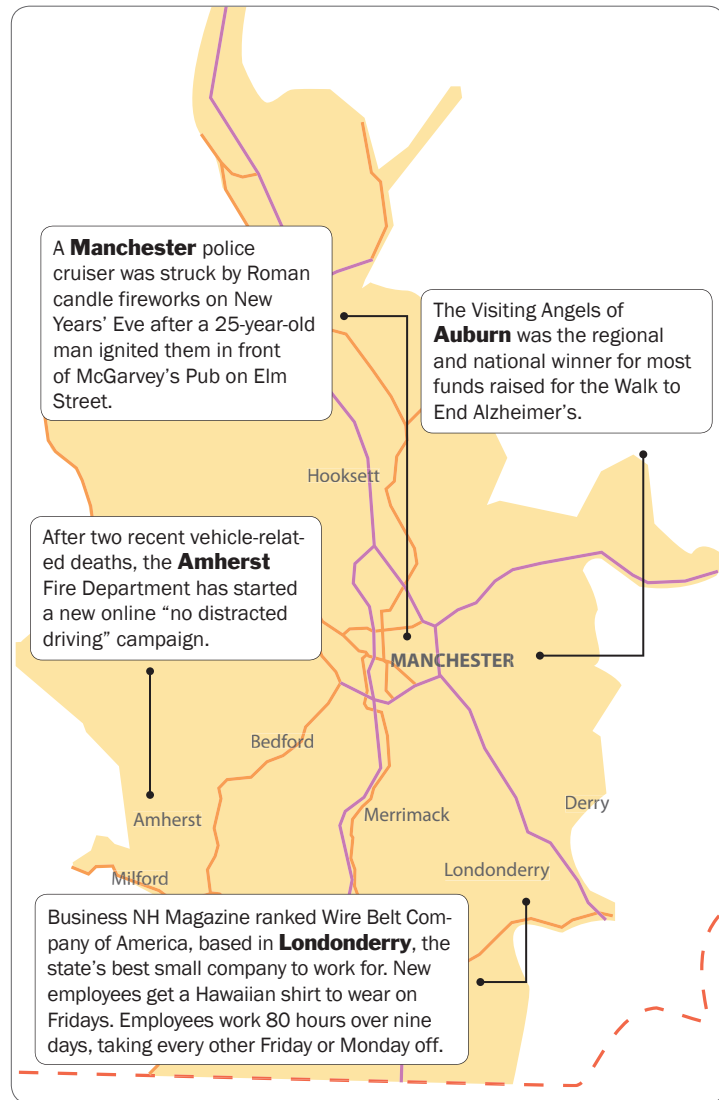
Rep sorry about ducks

State Rep. David Campbell, D-Nashua, has issued an apology for running over several ducks with his vehicle outside a local hotel recently, the Union Leader reported. According to Campbell's statement, after he hit the ducks with his vehicle, Campbell said he immediately got out of his car and apologized. However, Campbell says that one individual, who he later learned was James Murphy, was agitated and confrontational. Campbell maintains that he has cooperated with police, reported the accident to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and spoke with hotel management.

Archers wanted

There's still room in indoor archery leagues being offered by New Hampshire's Fish and Game Department for experienced archers. The leagues are at Owl Brook Hunter Education Center in Holderness. Each league will meet one night a week for four weeks from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The first advanced league will meet Tuesdays starting Jan. 7. In February, the advanced



league will meet on Wednesdays starting Feb. 5. Registration is first-come, first-served. Leagues are limited to 10 people. Register by calling Tom Flynn or Eric Geib at 536-3954.

Free patch

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services is offering

free nicotine replacement therapy in the form of the patch to New Hampshire residents who want to quit smoking or chewing tobacco in the new year, according to a press release. To qualify for the free patches residents must be at least 18 years old, be willing to participate in free telephone counseling and be screened for safe use of the patch. ☁

BEST WEEK



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Starting last week limited English-speakers using courthouse services in New Hampshire have free and ready access to interpreters, according to a recent order by the state's Supreme Court. All state courts are now required to provide interpreter services to litigants, witnesses or anyone whom a judge deems to have a significant interest in a court proceeding, or anyone who seeks court records and related information, the Concord Monitor reported. New Hampshire already supplied interpreters but no official laws were in place.

WORST WEEK



WINTER HATERS

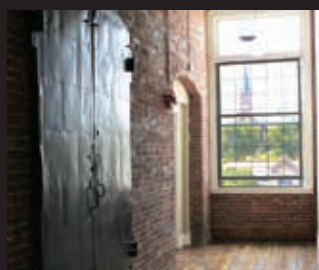
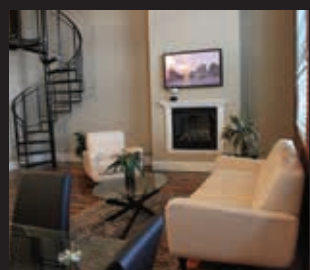
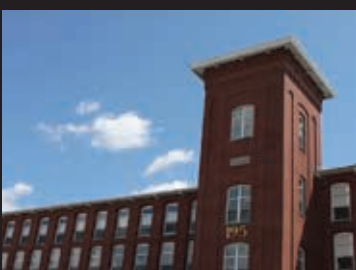
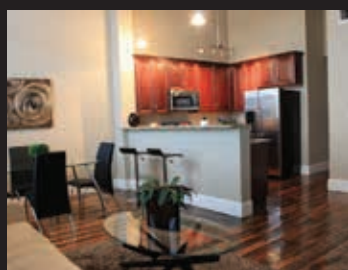
New Hampshire got slammed with a two-part winter Nor'easter last week that resulted in delays and a lot of destruction. The blast of snow and sub-zero temperatures resulted in statewide school closings, flight cancellations and dozens of car crashes as residents were warned that conditions on the roads might have been worse than they appeared. Should make for some quality skiing, though.

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BRADY SULLIVAN

P R O P E R T I E S

Help is coming

NH to get improved mental health services

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

Mandy Dube, a 24-year-old New Hampshire resident, has been in and out of hospitals and institutions since she was 11 years old as a result of bipolar disorder. But sometimes, all she really needed was someone to talk to.

A landmark settlement agreement was reached last month in New Hampshire; the state will expand its housing, treatment, crisis and employment services for the state's approximately 10,000 individuals with serious mental illnesses.

"A lot of times I would end up in the E.R. when I just needed someone to talk to, which wasn't an available option," Dube said. "The only service available was going into the hospital. ... It feels pretty miserable, when you don't need to be locked up."

The shortage of community-based resources for patients with mental disabilities hit critical mass for Dube when the Connecticut Valley Home, a group home for mentally ill adults that she was living at, closed due to lack of government funding. Its residents and staff had a month to find other arrangements.

"I desperately needed the group home at the time. It was a wonderful facility but due to lack of funding they had to close. I ended up having to go to the hospital for a while because I was in a very bad situation," she said.

Dube was one of the six named plaintiffs who represented a class action lawsuit filed in 2012 that claimed the state was needlessly institutionalizing people with mental illnesses instead of providing adequate community-based resources. The settlement agreement was reached last month by the Disabilities Rights Center, United States Department of Justice, and the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office.

"I want to express how pleased we are with the agreement that's been reached," said Amy Messer, legal director of The Disabilities Rights Center. "These are the services that really improve the quality of people's lives. They are critical, proven methods that they eliminate and reduce hospitalization. And they are cost effective."

Under the proposed agreement New Hampshire will expand its supported housing to include a minimum of 450 units, and add Assertive Community Treatment to serve 1,500 people. The agreement also introduces new mobile crisis services in the Concord, Manchester, and Nashua regions. According to a press release from the Disabilities Rights Center, the central components of the mental health services planned under the proposed settlement agreement include:

Assertive Community Treatment: a multidisciplinary team of professionals that are available around the clock and provide a wide range of flexible services, including

case management, medication management, psychiatric services, assistance with employment and housing, substance abuse services, crisis services and other services and supports.

Supported Housing: integrated, scattered-site, permanent housing, coupled with on-going mental health and tenancy support services provided by ACT, case management, and/or a housing specialist.

Supported Employment: helps individuals with disabilities find and maintain competitive employment at integrated job sites in the community, reducing the risk of institutionalization, and enabling individuals to support themselves and their families.

Mobile Crisis Teams: are able to respond to individuals in their homes and communities 24/7 and include access to new crisis apartments, where individuals experiencing a mental health crisis can stay for up to seven days, as an alternative to hospitalization.

The lawsuit was filed in February 2012 by the Disability Rights Center and the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of six plaintiffs who were currently living in a state-run nursing facility or had cycled in and out of emergency rooms and the state hospitals. Leading up to the lawsuit, the two organizations conducted independent studies that came to the same conclusion that the state had been violating the American Disabilities Act. Last September the court issued a decision certifying the suit as

NH's commitment to mental health care:

1986 - NH Legislature passes a Mental Health Services law to provide mental health care that is within each person's own community and directed at promoting independence.

Late 1980s - NH recognized for its leadership in providing community-setting services by the National Institute of Mental Health.

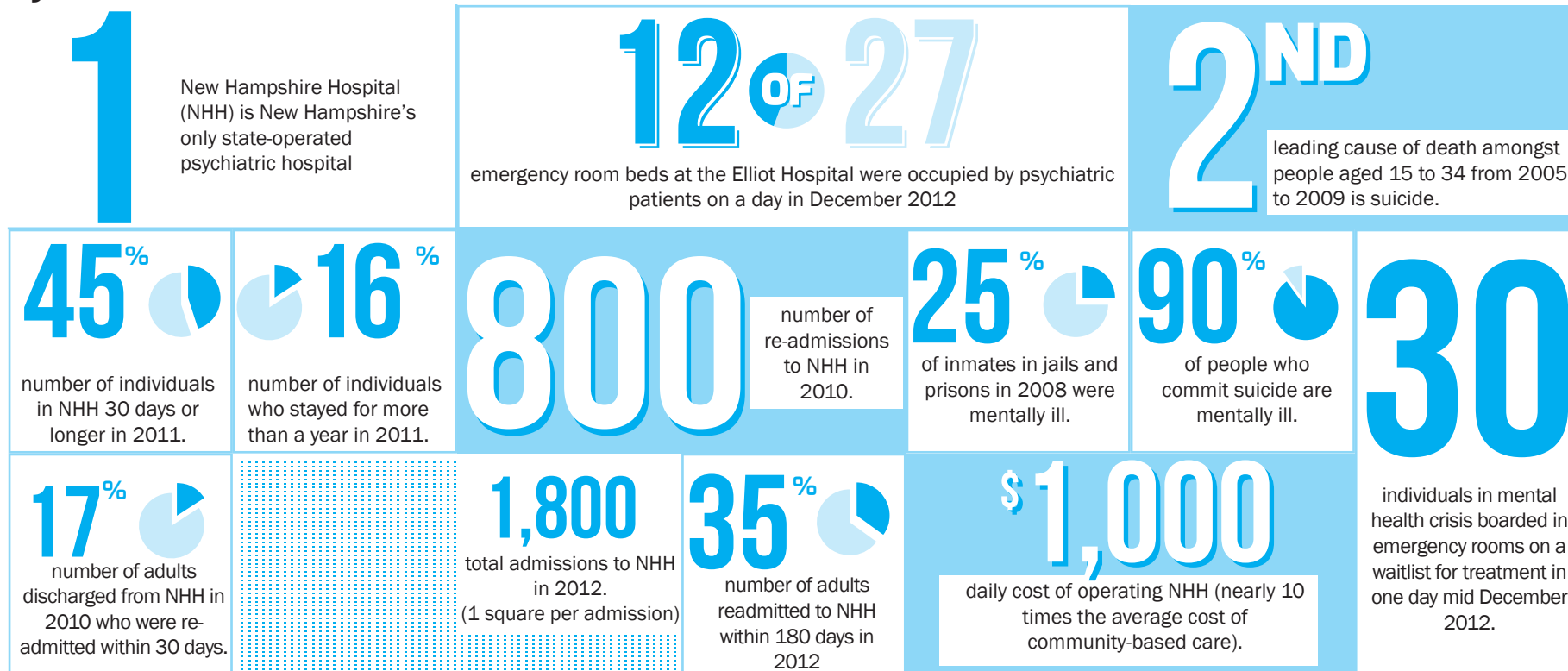
Early 1990s - availability of services begins to decrease; institutionalization begins to rise (rises 150 percent from 1989 to 2010).

2011 - U.S. Department of Justice conducts an investigation of NH's mental health system and releases findings in April that concluded NH is violating the Americans with Disabilities Act.

2012 - The class action lawsuit is filed by six named plaintiffs against the state alleging that individuals with psychiatric disabilities were unnecessarily institutionalized or at serious risk of unnecessary institutionalization.

December 2013 - A settlement agreement is entered into by the Disabilities Rights Center, United States Department of Justice and the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office and enhancements and expansion to community-based mental health services are planned.

By the numbers: NH's mental health



Source: New Hampshire Disabilities Rights Center, <http://www.drcnh.org/mentalhealthcrisis.html>

a class action.

Messer was disturbed that the number of persons with mental disabilities admitted to New Hampshire hospitals jumped from 900 in 1989 to 2,300 in 2011. The state's readmission rate also was almost twice the national average after 180 days, she said.

"I think there was a reduction of our commitment to community mental health services," Messer said.

The agreement will now go before United States District Court Judge Steven McAuliffe for preliminary approval and

a final hearing before the agreement will take full effect. A final hearing is slated for February.

"This settlement agreement continues the path of progress that began with the improvements in the budget and provides long-term stability and protection to our taxpayers," House Speaker Terie Norelli said in a release. "I look forward to working with Gov. Hassan and Senate Pres. Morse to take the appropriate legislative actions in support of this settlement." 🐦

Robie's returns

Historic Hooksett country store preps for re-opening

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

Robie's Country Store, a much-loved historical site in Hooksett, has been closed since its operators announced their resignation in September. But soon enough patrons will be welcomed back to sit around a cracker barrel and sip coffee over a game of checkers. New Hampshire State Rep. Thomas Walsh IV has been selected by Robie's Country Store Historic Preservation Corporation to continue the operation of Robie's.

"It's closed right now, but it will be open in the very near future," said Robert Schroeder, a board member of Robie's Country Store Historic Preservation Corporation.

Schroeder remembers the day President Jimmy Carter and his entourage strolled into Robie's Country Store in 1975. At the time, the historic site was run by Lloyd Robie, and Pres. Carter asked for Robie by name.

"He said, 'Hi, Mr. Robie, I'm Jimmy Carter and I'm running for the president of the United States,' and [Robie] said, 'Jimmy who?'" Schroeder said.

The simple moment of strained communication turned out to be a landmark event for the future president, as the media quickly latched on to the line, "Jimmy who?" It followed Carter throughout his campaign. Carter was one of many political heavy-hitters to visit Robie's Country Store during its 125-year history. Since 1887, the store has been a cultural centerpiece of Hooksett, serving as a meeting place, a museum, and a fully functioning store.

New Hampshire has been experiencing an expanding village store preservation movement, said Jennifer Goodman, executive director of the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance. She cited recent efforts by community leaders in Canterbury, Harrisville and Cornish to preserve their own versions of Robie's. On the state level, last June House and Senate leaders agreed to fully fund the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, providing an estimated \$4.1 million for the the 2014 fiscal year and almost

\$4.3 million for 2015.

"Community landmarks like village stores are important for their history, sometimes their architecture, as well as their role in the community," Goodman said. "And many of these stores are a real gathering places for community members. It's not just a place to get a loaf of bread and a cup of coffee."

Living historical sites like Robie's Country Store experience the same challenges as other small businesses competing on a shifting business landscape, Goodman said. They require strong store management, tenacity and good business planning to be successful. Since Robie's Country Store was purchased from the Robie family in 1997 by the RCSHPC, securing a long-term manager has been an ongoing challenge. The new management will be the store's fourth since RCSHPC bought the site. One manager ran into serious health problems and had to step down; others cited the difficult long hours that come with running the store.

Walsh will bring his extensive food service experience and carpentry talents to Robie's, which is listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places. The re-opening is slated for mid-February, but before that, Walsh will be lining up suppliers and hiring his new staff, said RCSHPC board member Don Riley. The board received three business plans from interested parties and, after sitting down with each candidate, "It was pretty clear Tom was best suited in terms of where our focus is," Riley said.

Past managers of Robie's have worn multiple hats, running the store that sells food staples as well as historic memorabilia and managing a deli where people could buy breakfast and lunch. The store also has functioned as a museum and educational site, and it hosted numerous events including Hooksett Lions Club and Garden Club meetings.

"The town populace feels very strongly about the significance," Schroeder said. "Ninety-nine percent of the time you run into someone you know there. It's on the list of things they definitely want."

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Robie's Country Store in Hooksett is slated to reopen later this winter. Courtesy photo.

it, its members established the mission statement, "To preserve the culture and historical heritage of Robie's Country Store by maintaining the historical structure and controlling its use to create a living, historical, educational, and cultural museum."

It takes a whole town to keep a mission statement like that alive. When RCSHPC was formed it didn't have any money, Schroeder said. Funding came from community businesses and individuals, and open houses were run every month for more than two

years. RCSHPC applied to various funds and support groups and local businesses volunteered to contribute free labor. Among the notable contributors was Al Terry Plumbing and Heating, which equipped the store with a new bathroom for free.

"You can imagine, that building is over 100 years old so there's always something that needs fixing," Schroeder said. "A large percentage has been done on a pro-bono basis." 🐼

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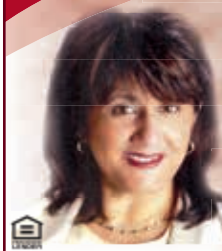
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What the Bill?

House Bill 242:

Enhanced vehicle-safety protection laws for NH's kids

The roads just got safer for the state's approximately 15,000 6-year-olds. House Bill 242 went into effect Jan. 1.

The bill, which was approved last July, changes New Hampshire's Child Occupant Protection Law RSA 265:107-a to require all children up to 7 years old or 57 inches tall (whichever is reached first) to be secured in an appropriate child restraint while traveling in a motor vehicle.

"This is a positive step," said Jo-Ellen Courtney, New Hampshire Child Passenger Safety program coordinator. "We're making an effort to coincide with best practice nationwide."

Before the new law took effect, children up to age 5 or 55 inches tall were required to be secured by child restraints. The last time the law was changed was in January 2004.

The change will be enforced by a \$50 fine for first-time offenses and a \$100 fine for subsequent offenses. The law is only useful if it is followed, so the next step is educating the public about how to keep kids safe in cars, Courtney said. Child car seat inspection

centers are located throughout the state and parents can use them to make sure child restraints are properly fitted for their children.

The change isn't as strict as some supporters of the law would have liked. Efforts to create the bill were initiated in March 2011 after the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Highway Safety Administration recommended that children who are up to 8 years old or 4-foot-9 should use a car seat or a booster seat.

"Essentially seat belts fit a person who is 4-foot-9, that's when seat belts fit properly," Courtney said. "[The new law] really is an incremental step. It isn't what we asked for, but it's a step."

The primary sponsor of the law change was State Rep. Sally Kelly (Chichester). It was spearheaded by Safe Kids NH and supported by several public and private organizations that are dedicated to creating safe roadways in New Hampshire, including some members of the NH Driving Toward Zero Deaths Coalition. — *Rebecca Fishow* 🐼

‘Indomitable spirits’

Local filmmaker tells story of N.H. Bhutanese refugees

Local filmmaker Doria Bramante spent the last five years documenting Bhutanese refugees as they resettled from refugee camps in Nepal to southern New Hampshire. During the process the refugees taught Bramante that “happiness isn’t just something that comes from your circumstances,” she said. *The Refugees of Shangri-La*, the film she co-directed, will be screened Jan. 23 at the Music Hall in Portsmouth and Feb. 6 at The Palace Theatre in Manchester.

Q: *How did you get into documentary filmmaking?*

I come from the theater. I’m an actress and musician. I was in Los Angeles and I knew I didn’t want to live in L.A. and I was trying to figure out what to do. I made myself a promise that I would say yes to the next thing that someone offered me and one of my friends was like, “You want to come to Nepal and work on a documentary about Bhutanese refugees?” And I said yes. ... I’m a practiced storyteller, but this is a new medium. In Nepal we found out a large population was going to be moving to New Hampshire and I was like, ‘What?! I’m from New Hampshire.’

When making a documentary, how do you avoid being an outsider looking in and capture things from your subject’s perspective?

So we’ve been through multiple takes on how to tell the story. For a while we were toying with the idea of having narration but we scratched that. Through our various interviews there is a kind of collective narration that comes across, so we’ve done our best to have it be through the voices of the refugees. ... All of the music and the illustrations from the film are the refugees’. That’s sort of been our mission — to capture how the refugees would tell their stories.

What is your best memory from Nepal?

I remember one of them is the power would go out constantly and that was actually quite a struggle. ... One night ... we were walking with some refugees to go grab something to eat when the power went out. But all around us was hundreds and hundreds of fireflies, and it was just so special. The entire place was just littered with lightning bugs.

How would you characterize the Bhutanese refugees?

They are awesome. They are just so strong spiritually, they have this incredible life condition. This spirit inside of them just exudes



Doria Bramante

happiness. There is this one quote in our film from this guy who says, “Wherever you place a Bhutanese refugee they will triumph.” They have made my life brighter.

They are hard working. They have strong family values and indomitable spirit.

What are the Bhutanese refugees’ biggest challenges coming into New Hampshire?

Well, the language barrier is huge. While a lot of them speak English, it took them a long time to be able to understand the way we’re speaking English here. The elders don’t really speak English, and it must be such an isolating experience to call the place home and not really be able to engage in the environment. Family dynamics get flopped around as the youth really start to acclimate to the culture of the country and language at a very rapid rate. ... Of course, they came at the height of recession in 2008. You’re a refugee for 20 years and then suddenly it’s welcome to America, nobody can find jobs. But they are smart, they’ve done it. They come here and are like, all right, we’re ready to do whatever we need to do.

What should New Hampshire residents know about the refugee population here?

What we really hope people walk away with from the film thinking is just we are so fortunate to have this group of people in America. They have a kind of wisdom about the way to be alive that I think America really, really needs. And in that way I think New Hampshire residents should know we are so fortunate. They are awesome, and they are going to contribute to our society in a major way. We hope people will be able to have an increased awareness, respect and appreciation for their neighbors.

What advice can you give to aspiring documentary filmmakers?

When a story needs to be told you have to tell that story no matter how hard. ... Over the past five years there has just been challenge after challenge. There’s been a million roadblocks. I think in anything perseverance is just an absolute key. — Rebecca Fishow

Five favorites
Favorite book: *Unlocking the Mysteries of Birth and Death* by a Buddhist philosopher
Favorite movie: *The Neverending Story*
Favorite type of music: I like bluegrass and North African guitar music
Favorite food: Indian
Favorite thing about NH: The Great Bay

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

New Hampshire Olympiads

We can cheer on our home-townners as four athletes with New Hampshire ties head to Sochi, Russia, to compete in the 2014 Winter Olympics. Andover native Nick Fairall will compete in ski jump. Former UNH students James van Riemsdyk and Kacey Bellamy are on the men's and women's hockey team, respectively. Bellamy is joining fellow Wildcat Katey Stone.

QOL Score: +2

Comment: Part 4 of the Hippo's Look Good, Feel Great series will feature Olympic sports that you can do right here in New Hampshire, from skiing and snowboarding to skating and curling. One of our enthusiastic writers even tried skiing for the first time, for the sake of her story, with some unfortunate (but pretty hysterical) results. Look for the issue on stands Jan. 23!

The show must go on!

And it did! Recycled Percussion, the "junk rock" band originally formed in New Hampshire, was so dedicated to its shows at the Palace Theatre that, when it became grounded in Cleveland due to terrible weather last Thursday night, the group rented a 4x4 vehicle and drove 15 hours to Manchester. The Palace had sold more than 2,300 tickets for the group's three shows. Turnout was good. "The place was packed, and the boys broke their own record in the amount of tickets sold for one act at the theater," said Jim Roach of JJR Productions in a short phone call.

QOL: +1 for perseverance

Comment: If you missed last weekend's shows, you can still check them out at the Colonial Theatre in Keene on Thursday, Jan. 9; the Lebanon Opera House on Friday, Jan. 10; and at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Sunday, Jan. 12. Visit recycledpercussionband.com.

Extended break

There's a very large New Hampshire population that was very happy about last Thursday and Friday's snowstorm. The storm arrived on Thursday, Jan. 2, the day many students were supposed to head back to school, and lasted until Friday, which for most schools tacked on two extra days to the second-longest break of the year.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: Talk about perfect timing.

Pay to kayak

Some water-sport lovers are a little miffed at the prospect of paying a \$10 annual fee to drop a canoe in New Hampshire waters. If the legislation passes, costs for using a rowboat, sailboat or other "non-motorized" vessel would also go up. It's an attempt to help pull the Fish and Game Department out of its \$3-million deficit. Costs are outpacing revenues in the department, which has led to substantial personnel cuts during the past few years. Supporters of the idea stated it's a small price to pay, but opponents have said they don't want to have to pay another tax. Plus, they already pay for their boats. Isn't that enough?

QOL Score: -1

Comment: Only four other states charge similar fees.

QOL score: 50

Net change: +3

QOL this week: 53

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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS



The NFL playoff season is upon us

Today we have a few cogent thoughts for you on the just-concluded regular NFL season and the playoffs that are now under way.

Why did everyone think **Bill Belichick** taking the wind in OT vs. Denver was such a gutsy move? Given how severe the wind was, it made moving the ball through the air difficult at best and anything but a chip shot field goal an adventure. He was smart to do it, but it was an obvious move, especially since the only way they don't get the ball back is if Denver scores a TD in that wind. It was a tremendous advantage by making it easier for **Tom Brady** to throw and added about 20 yards to their field goal range.

The most amazing thing about **LeGarrette Blount's** big game vs. Buffalo of rushing for 189 yards and kick returns for 145 was not the 334 total yards, though that was pretty good. It was being just the third guy ever to run 180 yards and over 100 in kickoff returns in one game. The other two slouches are the great Hall of Famer **Gale Sayers** and soon to be Famer **Adrian Peterson**.

Two other things about Blount: He had one great game and a pretty good second half, so let's pump the brakes on the rumbling bandwagon that has him headed to Canton; and, having said that, the guy whose running style he reminds me of most is **Ottis (my man) Anderson**, a load for the pounding Giants running attack when the G-Men won the Super Bowl in 1990.

New additions to the all-name team in 2013 are league tackles leader from the Bengals **Vontaze Burfict**, Tennessee DB **Alterraun Verner**, Detroit D-line-man **Ezekiel Ansah (Ka-soon-tite)**, and the Cleveland trio of **Ishma'ily Kitchen**, **Barkevious Mingo** and **Ahtyba Rubin**.

Not trying to kick a guy when he's down, but I've been saying since the early 2000s that **Mike Shanahan** is totally overrated and the one playoff win since **John Elway**

retired in 1998 (against five losses) and going 24-40 in Washington seems to back that up.

Does 54 catches and missing four games make **Danny Amendola** a bust? Not **Chad Ocho Cinco**, but not what was expected.

With all the chatter about losses in the passing game, there hasn't been much talk about losing **Danny Woodhead**. But after playing more in San Diego he caught a career-best 76 passes for 605 yards. That's 38 more than his best for the Patriots. He also had 429 rushing yards and eight TDs.

Jimmy Graham better than **Rob Gronkowski**? Are you kidding me?

If you missed it, idiotic singer **M.I.A.** is being sued by the NFL for \$1.5 million for damaging the "wholesome nature" of what the NFL brand "stands for" by flipping off the worldwide audience while performing with Madonna at the 2012 Super Bowl. While she deserves some sort of substantial punishment for an intentional act, her lawyer **Howard King** had a pretty good point when he said, "The NFL's claimed reputation for wholesomeness is hilarious in light of the weekly felonies committed by its stars, the bounties placed by coaches on opposing players, the homophobic and racist comments uttered by its players, the complete disregard for the health of players and the premature deaths that have resulted from same, and the raping of public entities ready to sacrifice public funds to attract teams." And he said it before the **Richie Incognito**, **Sam Hurd** and **Aaron Hernandez** stories broke.

Speaking of which, this is the first line in **Aaron Hernandez's** Wikipedia page: "Aaron Michael Hernandez (born November 6, 1989) is an American football tight end who is currently a free agent." (Emphasis mine.)

Enough already with the sideline cut-aways to **Rob Ryan** — yikes! Can't they wait until he actually does something besides being **Buddy's** and **Rex's** twin? The way they focus on him, you'd think we won 10 Super Bowls, but Saturday was his first

playoff win ever as a defensive coordinator.

While it ended with a tough loss, it was a pretty impressive first year for **Chip Kelly** of the Manchester Kellys. Philly led the NFC in points, rushing yards, QB rating and fewest turnovers. So here's my question: Does his system turn any QB into chicken salad, or after throwing 27 TD passes and just two picks was **Nick Foles** an out-of-nowhere **Tom Brady**-like find for Philly?

A Fox graphic said during Saturday's game that Chipper was the first rookie coach ever to win a division title. Not that this changes anything, but didn't **George Seifert** do it with the 49ers after taking over for **Bill Walsh**?

Time will tell, but I've got a feeling **Andrew Luck** will turn out to be better than either Brady or **Peyton Manning**. I know, that's quite a statement. But the brain seems on par, he's got a better arm, been a much bigger part of the offense in his first two years than either and gone to the playoffs in each of his first two years, which neither Brady nor Manning did. Then throw in the athleticism that got that vital second-half first down on fourth and 1 from the 50 that was the turning point in the KC-Indy game. At any age neither Brady nor Manning could do that in 100 seasons on a read option.

Seeing **Dan Shaughnessy** write in the Globe after the Pats' loss in Miami "let's face it, these Patriots simply are not that good" made me breathe a sigh of relief. Like clockwork, the next week they thump archnemesis Baltimore 41-7. Given his track record for getting it wrong, going deep now seems a lock. It's uncanny — if he says something, go to Vegas and bet the opposite and you'll clean up.

In that vein, while they may not be as good as past teams, I think the 2013 Pats got more out of what they had than any Belichick team since 2001. 🐾

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Sports Glossary

Ottis Anderson: Pounding back for the St. Louis (football) Cardinals after being taken from the U in 1979. Burst on scene with a 1,600-yard rushing season, then gave them four more 1,000-plus years, before being given up for dead after a couple of down years. Gave the G-Men another 1,000-yard season after being picked off the scrap heap by **Bill Parcells** and was big in 1990 when Tuna won his second ring in 1990.

Buddy Ryan: Nasty coordinator for the nasty 1986 Bears defense that ranks with the '70s Steelers and 2000 Ravens as the best of the last 50 years at least. But, while it still wreaked havoc for a few more years, those Bears won just once amid bickering over who gets the credit between the ego-ridden Ryan and head coach **Mike Ditka**. Still it got old Buddy the head coaching gig in Philly, who became a playoff team with a nasty defense led by **Reggie White**. But the prickly personality eventually got him there and later as head man in Arizona. Not to mention on the sideline in Houston in 1993, when back to being a D-Coordinator Ryan punched offensive coordinator **Kevin Gilbride** in the jaw during a game. He could coach, though, as he was also the D-C for Minnesota's Purple People-eating D that went to four SBs in the '70s and for the Jets when they upset Baltimore in Super Bowl III.

John Elway: Disingenuous backstabber who ran **Tim Tebow** out of Denver after he saved their season in 2011 with one miraculous comeback after another. He recovered nicely, though, by using **Peyton Manning** as his get-out-of-jail-free card. So good, in fact, that Manning's 55-TD-pass season moves him past his boss as the best QB in Broncos history. Though, after his latest playoff disaster, Peyton still trails Tebow in playoff wins with Denver.

Sam (have you) Hurd: Rocket scientist ex-Chicago Bears receiver now doing 15 large in the big house after pleading guilty to trying to pick up a little extra scratch during the NFL lockout of 2012 by setting up a network of cocaine and pot distributors reaching all the way out to California.

SPORTS DAVE LONG'S PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

Monarchs alums headline USA hockey team

The Big Story: It's turning out to be a banner year all around for the Manchester Monarchs, especially since ice hockey was one of the main Olympic highlights last time. With the 2014 winter Olympics just around the corner, it was nice to see a couple old friends picked to play for Team USA when Monarchs alums **Dustin Brown** and goaltender **Jonathan (oh, so) Quick** learned on New Year's Day they will be members of Team USA in mother Russia next month.

Sports 101: Who has the all-time highest quarterback rating in NFL playoff history?

Better Late Than Never Award: It was still a nail-biter with 8 minutes to go before Bedford decided to get busy in Friday's hockey game with neighboring Goffstown. But, with the score tied at 2 apiece, the two-time defending Division II champs turned on the juice to score three times to win going away 5-2. It started on a Tinkers to Evers to Chance-like hook-up when **Neil Soucy** tipped home one timer by **Harrison Voloshin** off a rebound of the **Nate Boyd** shot that started the chain reaction to give them the lead. Boyd followed that up with another to make it 4-2 and **Chris Viola** got another about a minute later to make it 5-2 and keep the Bulldogs undefeated at 3-0 as G-town dropped to 1-2 overall.

The Numbers: You've got to wonder why the Southern University basketball team of Baton Rouge, La., would waste its time scheduling a game against Champion Baptist College. I mean how much can a win mean when you score the first 44 points and win

it with a 104-point margin of victory at 116-12? A match-up like that makes UNH look positively brave scheduling D-III Suffolk University to get a win on the books each year.

Reverse Knick of Tyme Award: Reverse 'cause it goes to the bad guys' **Mike Hoffman** for scoring with just 35 seconds remaining in OT to hand the Monarchs a 5-4 loss to Binghamton in a battle of division leaders on the road Friday night.

Sports Answer: The player QB rating leader is the great '60s Packers QB **Bart Starr**, who turns (how can he be that old?) 80 on Jan. 9. His regular-season 80.5 QB rating jumped to 104.8 as he went 9-1 in the playoffs as the Packers won five NFL titles in the 1960s. **Drew Brees** is second at 103.9, followed by **Aaron Rogers** at 103.6.

On This Date – Jan. 9: 1903 – New Yorkers **Frank J. Farrell** and **William S. Devery** buy the Baltimore baseball franchise for \$18,000 and move it to New York to become first the Highlanders and then in 1913 the Yankees. **1953** – **Bevo Francis** of Rio Grande College scores 116 points in a college basketball game. **1958** – Cincinnati's **Oscar Robertson** outscores Seton Hall all by himself when he scores 56 to the Pirates' 54. **1989** – **Johnny Bench** and **Carl Yastrzemski** elected to Baseball Hall of Fame. **1991** – **Dean Smith** is sixth in NCAA history to win 700 collegiate basketball games. **Born: 1978** – **Chad Ocho Johnson**, knucklehead retired NFL wide-out. **Died: 2003** – **Will McDonough**, all-world NFL columnist for Boston Globe.

The Numbers

5 – number of players to score a goal for Memorial in a 5-0 win over Concord at West Side Arena on Saturday; the tallies came from **Brady Sufat**, **Bryce (is right) Jacob**, **Bryer Bilodeau**, **Matt Fitzgerald** and **Shane Allen**. **15** – fourth-quarter points scored by **Wenyn Gabri-**

el to spark Trinity to a 70-58 win over Exeter behind his 24-point night.

25 – saves in goal made by **Brandon Mackenzie** to pick up the shutout in the aforementioned Memorial win over Concord.

111 – head coaching changes in the NFL since **Bill Belichick** became HC of the New England Patriots according to

PPO contributor QCIBT historian **Tommy Ameen**.

48 – points scored by Trinity's **Amanda Torres** in a win and a loss last week for the Pioneers. The first 25 came in a 47-42 finals game loss to Lebanon at the Manchester Central Christmas Tournament and the final 23 in a 45-27 thumping of Exeter. 🌊

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HOW DO YOU



Most of us still watch TV. According to a Nielsen report in 2011, something like 96.7 percent of Americans have a television in the home. So even though we're binge-watching *Breaking Bad* on iPads or catching up on *Scandal* on our computers, most of us also still sit down in front of a TV to do at least some part of our entertainment consumption.

But how are we filling our TVs with glowing entertainment goodness?

For a little more than half of us, the TV we watch gets to us via cable or satellite (55.3 percent of homes get "some sort of pay service," according to a story in the *Hollywood Reporter* in June 2013). Perhaps this holiday's gift of a Hulu subscription or a fancy new TV (or the bills that came after buying similar gifts for others) has you thinking about joining that 45 percent and cutting the cable cord. Turning off the cable tap is a little trickier when you have a family of TV watchers, each with his own favorite shows, says Rick Ganley, who discusses his experiences seeking out *Mythbusters*, *Spongebob* and a way to watch the Red Sox after he retired the cable box.

For those who'd rather cut back on the heat than cut out cable, Amy Diaz takes a look at all that stuff cable subscribers pay for but might not use — Al Jazeera on OnDemand, C-SPAN 3 and "Classic Alternative" on the TV jukebox.

With cable or without, watching with intent or just surfing through *30 Rock* reruns — how do you TV?

Cutting (part of) the cord

One family's adventures without cable

By Rick and Kate Ganley

So, you want to live life off the TV grid. A word of advice: Prepare.

Attempting to eliminate cable TV service in a family home is nothing less than a full military-style operation; there are meetings — strategy sessions really — that begin months in advance. Those supposedly in charge (parents) discuss each and every possibility and contingency: Will Child No. 1 still be able to watch her Nickelodeon shows? Will Child 2 still have access to her Disney and Sprout? How will we get the new season of *Mad Men*? What about baseball?

After weeks of talk and preliminary planning, research, charts displaying alternative sources and limited field testing of new streaming devices, an announcement is made to the general enlisted (kids): We are getting rid of Cable. Cable with a big C.

There is a look of terror and disbelief in an 11-year-old's eyes when told a service that she has never been without will one day just fail to be there. There is little

room in said child's mind for the thought of a world where the latest and most hyped television programming is not instantly available when wanted. How can such a thing be, Dad?

What follows is not a "how to" manual. There are plenty of blogs by hipster-types online for you to refer to. No, what I am offering here is a cold hard clinical review of one family's first month without the flowing cable pipe jacked into every screen in the house.

Into the unknown

First, the basics: we're not really cutting the cord; broadband Internet access is really a necessity these days. I look at it as any other utility. So we're still beholden to the behemoth of Comcast for that bill. But TV service? We can go around the middleman! A telephone tethered to a wall? Blah! We're decades into the cell phone revolution already. We pay the cell bill monthly anyway. Plus, it's not like we're really giving up TV — we've had Netflix and Amazon Prime for years now, and we've come to use them more often than the cable

service. My wife and I figure we can live with those alone.

For me, this whole experiment isn't without precedent. I'm old enough to have lived in the BC era — Before Cable. Growing up in the distant suburbs of Boston, we muddled through with an antenna in the attic and four watchable TV channels — you know, your NBC, ABC, CBS, PBS lineup. Let me point this out again for the full effect: We had four television channels. None included anything that would bring you Shark Week. There was, however, *Battle of the Network Stars*. I'd tell you to look it up on YouTube, but that would be several minutes of your life that you will never get back.

We *did* have — if the atmospheric were just right and my older brother forced me to stand at the set holding 50 feet of tinfoil — a couple of UHF band channels (38 and 56) that were very fuzzy (TV "snow" is something our children have been denied) that played shows like *Creature Double Feature*.

Look that one up. Thank me later, Godzilla fans.

I digress. There is nothing in my children's world view that allows understanding of such a primitive state. So, when we announced cable TV would cease to be, there was apprehension. To involve my older daughter Kate in the whole process (and ease her through this difficult time), I've asked her to keep a diary and note how she is feeling without her 'beloved' television service. Early entry:

"I thought I would die!!!!"

OK I am not that dead, besides I found something new.

I have to search ONLINE!!!

This is getting to be OK, besides it's not like life or death."

The punctuation is hers.

Truth is, we had already been relying less on the cable service with our Netflix subscription taking up the bulk of the slack. Most of our viewing happens in the living room with the Wii game console streaming the service. To get ready for the Big Turn Off, we bought a Roku box for the bedroom television, and decided we could live without a third television in our walk-up attic.



The total cost of this equipment is less than three months of mid-level cable service. Rick Ganley photo.

There are now plenty of streaming boxes on the market, all relatively cheap (between \$35 and \$100). If you are running a wireless router with any kind of broadband Internet service, they are easy to set up. Our Roku box cost \$50 and required plugging in the power cord and the three composite cables to the ol' TV set — video, audio left and right. If you're using your standard-issue flat screen, it takes just one connection using an HDMI cable; that gives you full high definition apparently. Me? I'm happy this thing is in color.

The Roku found our wireless router easily and setup was more or less painless — except for the fact it wants a credit card number. This is confusing because it's a "free service." The reason they want your account information is so they can sell you additional channels through the box, not unlike Comcast does. I wanted to bypass this option; I didn't want to order anything via Roku so I contacted customer service directly and they were able to get the box online without having any additional charges. After the Roku account is set up, it's an easy ride to adding Netflix or any other streaming service you may already have.

We practiced operations. We reviewed

Cord-Cutting Tips

• **The ultra freebie:** If you refuse to pay anything for your television viewing, you can pull in broadcast signals with an antenna, you know, like our forefathers did in the 20th century. In fact, over-the-air signals still offer the very best high-def quality. The downside is you'll be limited to the broadcast networks and several independents that are less than desirable. If the majority of shows you care about are on ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX and PBS, this could be a great solution — they're all in the air free for the taking just as they always have been. You'll need a screen with a digital tuner; most screens sold in stores these days are high-def displays, not "televisions." A TV, strictly speaking, tunes over-the-air signals. So, if you want to get free over-the-air signals, look for a screen that has a tuner built in. Otherwise, you'll need a separate tuner box. If you have an old standard-definition TV (oh you beautiful glass giant), a simple DTV converter box will run you about \$50. You'll also need an antenna. In New Hampshire, you'll need an attic- or roof-mounted antenna capable of pulling in UHF signals 50 or more miles away. If you never got around to pulling down that big rig mounted on the chimney back in the '70s, it may work just fine.

• **The cheap alternative:** If you're already paying for broadband access, you can get a surprising amount of programming. The broadcast networks offer many of their prime shows via their own websites. Hulu offers a good amount of current stuff in one place for free with commercials. If you have a web-enabled TV or don't mind watching on your computer or phone, you won't need to buy any other gear or pay any subscription fees.

scenarios. After two weeks with just the Roku box streaming Netflix and Amazon in the bedroom, we felt stable. We felt OK. We felt as if we were ready to turn off the cable TV service completely. And so I made the call. The deed was done. As the kids say — you know, the ones who don't know of a world without reality television delivered by cable — stuff just got serious.

As things turned out, our planning was not done in vain. My wife was just fine. She reads more. The kids breezed through with little thought and found what they wanted or simply turned off the screen. Exactly what we had hoped for. Another diary entry from Kate, a week or so in to The Great Cut Off:

"Over all everything is sooo much better than cable, because I can choose what I want, and there are no commercials."

I had no issues either, until...

THE RED SOX MADE THE WORLD SERIES.

(Expletive deleted.)

Return of the antenna

I had considered the Sox play-by-play before we cut the cord, but decided I could live without the TV coverage. I often listen to the game on the radio, because it

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allows me to get other things done while the game is on. Although I certainly would miss watching the occasional game, everyone in the house had to make some kind of sacrifice in this effort, and so did I. This noble thinking was all done before Labor Day, when the idea of a World Series run seemed remote. Playoffs, sure... but World Series? Wishful thinking would get us all in trouble. By denying it could happen and getting rid of NESN, I somehow made the post-season run happen.

It's this logic that leaves me to believe I am solely responsible for this world championship. You're welcome, New England.

The week the Sox were set to play the Tigers in the Divisional Series, I decided I had to take action. I bought an antenna for the attic and one of those set top digital converter boxes for our ancient (13-year-old) analog television. Yes, we still have one of those 200-pound glass-fronted giants from the last century. I'd buy a new one, but I don't want to move the old TV. The disposal fee at the dump would be more than the cost of a new screen anyway.

So, after hooking everything up and spending six hours positioning the antenna in just the right place, I could get post-season baseball coverage on Boston's FOX affiliate. In the attic. You see the problem, right? Glass Giant is in the living room. Three stories down.

Long story, but after hooking up the antenna in the attic to some cable I put in the walls many moons ago we get beautiful digital over-the-air TV signals in the living room — loads of channels for free — to supplement Netflix and Amazon. Yep. All the major networks of my youth were there, free for the plucking. ABC, NBC, CBS, PBS ... but FOX wouldn't show up. The signal strength was just not enough to make it down the 75 or so feet of cable. Any other time in my life I couldn't have cared less. During this post-season, though, it was the only thing I wanted to watch.

That's the thing about over-the-air TV: In New Hampshire, you're bound to have a hard time getting the Boston stations without a big-set up in the attic or on the roof. When you do go through the trouble of installing an antenna, you're still limited to the major broadcast networks and a few sub-channels. Depending on how you aim it, you may only get a few stations at the exclusion of others. If you're addicted to cable-only programming (HBO, AMC, Discovery, etc.) you're going to be watching your online subscription services most of the time.

Finding your shows

The major concern for many who want to cut the cord, including us, is finding new episodes of the programs you want.

Netflix does not carry current season television. It's often a year or more behind in its offerings. Amazon offers the latest and greatest, but at a price. If you want to buy an episode or two it's fine, but an entire season can eat up a lot of the savings you garner from cutting the cord. Hardcore sports fans would have a nearly impossible time of it; the cable and satellite providers have a stranglehold on the major leagues, and there is really no (legal) way to get live play-by-play coverage on your television without paying for a package. Even a subscription to MLB's online service will not take its place, as the games are blacked out online if you are what is referred to as "in a team's home coverage territory." Yep, that includes New Hampshire.

The online services also can present some technical challenges. Kate noted this:

"Losing all these remotes. Netflix and Amazon do have little errors, but very few. Netflix has less glitches than Amazon. Works faster. Lots of kids stuff too. The picture quality is better on Netflix. Sometimes the sound on Amazon is out of sync."

I spent a fair amount of time programming universal remotes, and of course it takes some time getting everyone used to them. The online audio and video quality has been an issue, mostly with Amazon's instant video service; it's often slow to load on all of our devices — Roku, Wii,

laptops — and while the quality is usually fine, it's obviously inferior to Netflix. There's also the question of what service has what series: *Spongebob* is on Amazon, but *Jake and the Neverland Pirates* is on Netflix. These are important considerations in a family household. It's my job to know this. To sum it up in one word, dropping cable service is a compromise. You are trading in a certain amount of convenience for the sake of savings.

A month after cutting the cord, civilization as we know it seems to have survived. Kate and I have caught up on all the episodes of *Mythbusters* we missed; my wife has plenty of *Antique Road Shows* on tap, and our attic antenna brings us all the PBS channels, including their fantastic PBS Kids and WORLD. Our 3-year-old likes that and has managed to find plenty of series to enjoy online. Her two favorites are *My Little Pony* and the BBC's *Top Gear*. She's like that.

As for baseball? Well, I watched a couple of games in the attic, but I ended up listening to the final innings of the World Series on my radio.

Rick Ganley (host of Morning Edition on NHPR) is known primarily as the father of Kate Ganley. Kate Ganley is a 6th grade honor student, dancer and part-time farmer. She's currently pressuring her parents non-stop for a new cat.

Nothing on? I beg to differ.

A hike through some of the stranger corners of the cable universe

By Amy Diaz
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If I had to sum up why I still have, and will probably always have, some kind of paid subscription TV service, whether cable or satellite, it would be this: channel surfing.

I like flipping to the last half of a *Rizzoli & Isles* or the first half of an original recipe *Law & Order* and not even having to intentionally pick a show to watch.

So perhaps I could edit down "channel surfing" to simply "laziness."

The joy of this was brought home to me recently, when a one-two punch of winter cooties had me sick in bed for several days. I caught a few hours of a *Miss Congeniality* marathon (WE TV, I believe) and a few hours of an *Elf* loop (Starz, maybe). I enjoyed reruns of *Frasier* (Lifetime) and *Roseanne* (WE again). And this odd soup of shows and stations I never watch but enjoyed when I needed them got me thinking about all the parts of the cable package (Comcast, in my case) that I pay for but don't use. My regulars probably make up a couple dozen stations. So what else am I paying for?

OnDemand

I tend to think of "OnDemand" as the place I find the most recent *The Walking Dead* but there is, of course, more going on.

• **TV shows:** Here's a navigation trick for catching up on popular series: you can skip a few steps in the search for, say, the latest *The Good Wife* by clicking on "Just Aired" and series aired in the last day or

two will appear there.

• **It's not TV, it's HBO (or Showtime or ...):** Premium networks tend to give you entire seasons or even entire series on OnDemand. You can also get a taste



Free-flowing *Rizzoli & Isles* is how they keep you in the cable family.



CommonSense's OnDemand reviews say *Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues* is NSFkids under 14.

of premium shows on networks you don't have subscriptions to under the "premium free sample" category. You can check out the first episode of *Ray Donovan* or *White Queen* and see if their corresponding networks (Showtime and Starz, respectively) are worth the addition to your bill.

- **Movies:** In addition to the new-to-DVD movies — movies that came out in theaters six months (give or take) ago, a big convenience of OnDemand is that you can find a mix of recent releases and older movies in the "movie collections" category, which recently included collections such as "Fast & Furious" and "Yuletide Comedies." Under "Indies & Foreign," films are also presented by studio, allowing you to see what Focus Features or The Weinstein Company has available.

- **In theaters now:** OnDemand offers a few movies (69 at this writing) labeled "In Theaters." These are indie movies — often films that wouldn't appear at any theater anywhere near you. Current offerings include *Hours* (a movie released in late October starring Paul Walker), *Open Grave* (a just released horror film starring Sharlto Copley) and *Only God Forgives* (Kristin Scott Thomas and Ryan Gosling, released in late May).

- **Trailers:** Under the "Trailers & Reviews" section, you can find trailers of movies in theaters now (and, helpfully, some of the indies in the "in theaters" section) and upcoming movies.

- **Ratings advice:** Also under the "Trailers & Reviews" section is "Reviews for Parents," an offering of quick but helpful video clips (about three minutes each) reviewing movies in theaters. The content is provided by Commonsense.org and the reviews for movies I've seen were, I felt, pretty on the money: *Anchorman 2* was said to be iffy for kids aged 14 and under; *Ender's Game* was rated OK for kids 12

and up, and *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* was rated iffy for under 13. The reviews explain the reasoning for this and are actually way more helpful than the blanket "rated PG-13 for language and violence" that the MPAA offers.

- **Government & schools:** I'm probably one of the first people to ever click on the "Searchlight" section. Here, you'll find curiosities such as three-minute explainer segments called "Your Vote" that take subjects like exit polls or primaries. There is also a section called "Schools on Demand" that offers short videos touring a variety of colleges and universities (local schools, like Dartmouth, Emerson and Boston colleges, as well as schools from across the country).

- **International programing:** In addition to a pretty wide selection of Spanish language TV shows and movies, there are a variety of Asian TV shows and movies (a category that includes American movies with Asian actors, such as *A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas*), Eurocinema, BBC World News programs and news programs from Al Jazeera America.

And now, the remote

Venture beyond the regulars and there's a lot of interesting programming to be found in the lineup's 100+ channels as well.

- **Tout est possible:** We all know about Telemundo and Univision, but did you know about "Tele," which offers French Canadian programming? This station, CKSH-9 officially, airs on channel 95 on my lineup (it varies by town; check Comcast.com for your town's lineup) and features French language shows.

- **News from around the world:** In addition to the standard 24-hour news network — Fox News, MSNBC and, for people who don't like to pick sides, CNN — there is BBC World (190), which offers 24 hours

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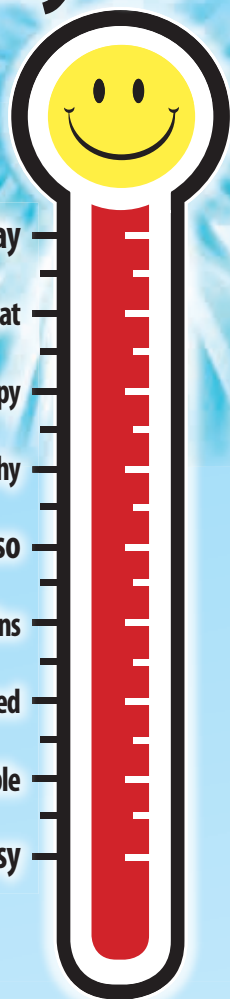
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of news and news programming with a fancy accent. The aforementioned Al Jazeera takes over Current TV's slot (254) and there are three C-SPANs to choose from, including C-SPAN 3, which becomes American History TV on weekends.

• **Kids TV:** I was aware of the Nickelodeon/Disney/PBS outlets for children's programming, but look deep into the wilds of cable and you find Nicktoons (220), The Hub (221), Disney XD (222), Nick Jr. (223), Teen Nick (224) and Baby's First TV America, where, one recent afternoon, I watched a few minutes of a Spanish-language-teaching show called *Hola Bebe* (there was a song about hands; if you're looking to feel good about the little you remember from high school Spanish, head to channel 193).

• **History! No, actual history:** Ever since History, the network, became more about *Swamp People* and *Pawn Stars*, people have had to look elsewhere for their random hour-long documentaries about World War II and John F. Kennedy. Enter Smithsonian Channel (193), where a recent lineup included "The Teacher Who Defied Hitler," "Kennedy's Suicide Bomber," "America's Yellowstone," and "Space Voyages: The Moon and Beyond."

• **Remember the '80s and '90s:** Channels that appear to be devoted to movies also prove to be a conduit for 20- and 30-year-old TV. Thusly, I found: *Murder, She Wrote* and *Matlock* (Hallmark Movie Channel); *Magnum P.I.* and *Murphy Brown* (Encore Love); *Living Single* and *A Different World* (TV One); *Roseanne* and *Will & Grace* (WE TV), and *The Golden Girls* and *Home Improvement* (Hallmark Channel).

• **Movies, of varying subjects and quality:** On some of those same channels (and



It's alive! 1980s television abounds on cable.

channels surrounding them), there were movies slotted for, within the 24 hours of my search: *Philadelphia* (Sundance Channel), *Guilty As Sin* (a 1993 Sidney Lumet movie starring Don Johnson; Flix), *Spartacus* (the 1960 movie, Encore Action); *Starship Troopers* (Encore Suspense), *An Education* (indieplex); *Hairspray* (the 1988 original, retroplex) and *Have Gun, Will Travel* (Encore Westerns).

• **Cable farm teams:** Food Network, HGTV and History also have little sister stations — Cooking Channel (239), DIY (240) and H2 (242), respectively. There are also of course assorted Discovery-s (Discovery Fit and Health, 230) and A&E (bio, for example, 243) off-shoots.

• **Music:** If you're old enough to have ever complained about MTV not running music videos, your might want to check out MTV Hits, VH1 Soul and CMT Pure

Country, all of which are all videos (or mostly videos) all the time. VH1 Classic mixes in some *Saturday Night Live* reruns and some music documentaries; MTV2 has a fair amount of non-music programming including reruns of *Saved by the Bell* and *The Wayans Brothers*.

• **Even more music:** Like satellite radio, the 500s offer stations featuring a pretty wide array of musical subgenres (Throwback Jamz, Toddler Tunes, Soundscapes). If you're over 30 and want to feel old, turn to Classic Alternative (517) and hear music you'd swear just came out five years ago (put a "1" in front of that "5" and you're still about 4 years off).

• **Weather at 10 p.m.:** On my lineup, WMUR's MeTV is at 292, where you can find TV from the 1950s and 1960s and a nightly 30-minute news broadcast at 10 p.m.

NEW YEAR, NEW SHOWS



Looking for some new shows to add to your roster? Here are some quick tips for catching up with series already in progress.

• **Return to the "meh"s:** I saw the first episode of *Trophy Wife* back when it premiered and was in no hurry to see other episodes. But over the past few weeks (with many network shows on winter break), I've gone back and given it a second chance — and been delightfully surprised. If there was something you felt lukewarm on in its pilot episode, it might be worth a second look.

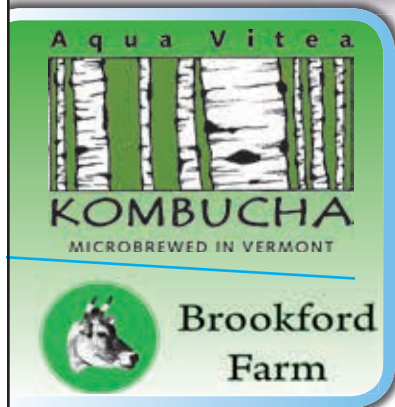
• **Work backward:** *Trophy Wife* is a solid example of why you can't trust a pilot. The first episodes, particularly of comedies, are often too bogged down in world building to be an accurate representation of the tone and humor you can expect from the series overall. If you saw the first episode (or have a general sense of the show's premise — e.g. *The Goldbergs*: a family in the 1980s), start watching from the most recent show and work back to the beginning. The characters are often better developed and the writ-

ing is cleaner and sharper. (Note: this works better with comedies than with hour-long dramas or action series but you can get a similar effect by starting your viewing of *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* or *Almost Human* in the second or third episode and then return to the earlier episodes.)

• **Wikipedia exists; use it:** Despite what the Internet might have you believe, spoilers never killed anybody. If you never started watching, say, *Scandal* but the weekly tweet-blizzards have encouraged you to start, school yourself on the

basics by getting a plot summary online (or, by checking out the "Scandal 101" six-minute recap available on ABC's website or in the app), then, just start watching the shows you have available. You can search around for previous seasons after you decide that you're hooked — this works even for mythology-dense shows. (Case in point: I like *Game of Thrones* but I have no idea who a good quarter of the people are or what their motives are, and I've seen most of the episodes.)

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It's Makeover Week! In this, Part 2 of the Hippo's four-week Look Good, Feel Great series, we look at various parts of your life that might need some refreshing.

Kaitlin Joseph starts things off with advice from local pros on how to use hair, skin and makeup tricks to help you feel better about your appearance. But makeovers aren't just about looks. Rebecca Fishow has some suggestions for upgrading your pop

culture library, and Kelly Sennott has tips on making the most of your online life — specifically, how to use social media sites to boost your image. Finally, Emelia Attridge will help you make over your kitchen; she talked to a nutritionist who shares advice on what to stock up on for your freezer, pantry, spice rack and fridge.

A TRIP TO THE SALON

By Kaitlin Joseph
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A haircut won't make a 45-year-old 25 again.

But the right haircut and an updated approach to skincare can, if nothing else, change how a person feels about their own appearance, and in the process make you feel more energized.

Looking to upgrade your look? Some local beauty professionals offered their tips for looking and feeling better — and maybe even a few years younger.

Hair!

First thing's first — talk to your hair stylist.

Rachel Aidan at Aidan James Salon (36 Northwest Blvd. in Nashua, 598-0795, aidanjamessalon.com) said her number one tip for better hair is to have a thorough consultation — about cut, about color and about maintenance. In particular, she said many people over-wash their hair and use products, like shampoos with surfactin, that are tough on hair.

"It can be really abrasive," Aidan said of the chemical, which she equated to using dish soap in your hair.

For those looking to change color, she recommended staying within two to three

color levels of your natural hair color to maintain a more natural look.

For a younger look, consider bangs, says Joni Stamoulis of Arcadya Salon and Day Spa (989 Cilley Road in Manchester, 644-1355, arcadyasalonanddayspa.com). A side sweeping bang is trendy and keeps focus away from fine lines (Google "side swept bangs" and you'll see examples on actresses such as Reese Witherspoon, Cameron Diaz and Jennifer Aniston). Stamoulis also suggests considering highlights, which can soften your look and add dimension if they are strategically placed.

Stamoulis echoed advice of several experts when she stressed the importance of keeping hair hydrated and using restorative oils and deep conditioning treatments. (And, she added, use a protective agent when using hot hair styling tools.)

In addition to not skimping on the products, stylists recommended keeping a regular appointment with your salon.

"Our hair gets old as well, so if you skimp out on haircuts, it's going to get damaged and frayed at the ends," said Charsty Delangie of Not So Plain Jane's Salon and Spa (155 Dow St. No. 102 in Manchester, 622-5971, notsoplainjanes.com). "It's going to be like a ribbon effect if you were to pull on it and it frays and

looks jagged."

Delangie also mentioned that your body and its hormones change and with it, your hair will change too. The volume or texture of your hair can be affected.

"It's a no brainer,"

She recommends a regular haircut every six weeks and a regular reconstruction treatment every two months.

And when the cut and color are done, don't rush out of the salon. Mogi Zagdsuren of Mogi'z Hair Salon and Art Gallery (383 East Dunstable Road in Nashua, 204-5690, mogizalon.com) said sticking around for the blow dry is impor-

tant, because it can show any problems with the cut or color that may then be able to be fixed on the spot.

Give them a hand

The "manny" might be a part of a trip to the salon, but hands can otherwise be forgotten. If you're looking to project a more youthful image, remember to consider this second most visible part of your body.

"A dead give away for age is your hands," Stamoulis of Arcadya said.

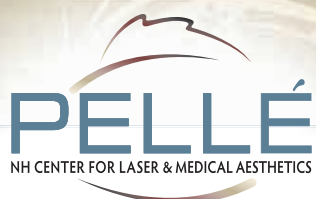
According to Stamoulis, when a hand is exposed to sun you'll be able to see the wrinkles and spots since the skin on your



Joni Stamoulis at her salon, Arcadya Salon and Day Spa. Courtesy photo.

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The Health Profession Opportunity Project is an initiative of the NH Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health and Refugee Affairs and is supported by Grant 90FX0003 from the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The project described is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of HHS.

A study funded by the federal government is being conducted to determine how these training opportunities help people to improve their skills and find better jobs. During the study, eligible applicants will be selected by lottery to receive healthcare training. Not all eligible individuals will be selected to participate.

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Mogi Zagdsuren. Courtesy photo. Appearance upgrade

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088016

hand is very fine.

“Exfoliating is huge. It gets the dead skin off your hands and it’ll look smoother, younger and glowing.”

She recommends using a hand cream with an SPF of at least 30 and mixing in a bit of foundation to conceal any age spots on your hands. Also, when considering polish, stay away from blue tones as they can bring out veins in your hands.

Keeping your nails short and polished is what Stamoulis recommends. The new nail trend right now is a scuobal. Stamoulis said it is a cross between a square and oval shape.

Shellac nail polish was tops on the list of several stylists.

“The polish is cured in a UV light,” said Sonia Biddle of Cassandra’s Salon (225 Daniel Webster Hwy, Nashua, 888-3300, cassandrasalon.com).

Another proponent of moisturizing and sunscreen for hands, Biddle also recommended using a cuticle oil cream.

Beyond Lip Smackers

Between no makeup and stage-ready face paint there exists a happy medium that can accentuate your best features and help hide or soften the aspects of your face and skin you’re less than thrilled with.

Danielle Bouthiette of Arcadya stresses the importance of matching skin tone and make-up tone to avoid that make-up-y line on the edge of your face. And, consider the occasion — highlights and contouring (which make-up stylists at most salons can demonstrate and explain) can shape your face and match the level of dressiness (your everyday work look,

for example, or a more formal evening look). She also suggests people pay attention to their eyebrows (fill in any gaps as the eyebrows shape your face and complete your look) and sticking to warmer tones — such as an apricot blush — for a younger look.

Adding to Bouthiette’s advice about contouring, Biddle suggests under-eye highlights and bronzer (which a stylist can help you choose and learn to apply). Biddle also recommends mascara — it adds oomph to eyes and helps them stand out a bit.

Show some skin

Good make-up, of course, starts with good skin, the pros agree.

“Washing your face is a significant part of the battle,” Aidan of Aidan James said. She and others recommended picking products suited specifically to your skin needs.

Hydration (i.e., drinking water), moisturizing and sun screen were on nearly everybody’s list of musts for keeping your skin healthy and younger looking.

The pros also suggested treatments — facials (everyone’s recommendation) as well as peels, microdermabrasion and other salon treatments.

“Peels are great because they are non-invasive,” Bouthiette of Arcadya said.

Biddle of Cassandra’s recommends the ultrasonic facial or the muscle toning treatment.

“[The muscle toning treatment] uses micro-currents to stimulate and tighten the muscles in your face,” Biddle said.

However, Biddle said that it’s imperative for people to take good care of their skin.



A regular trim and maintenance really is the key.”

CHARSTY DELANGIE

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WINTER 2014

MONDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Animation & Cartooning	4	7:00-9:00	\$79	\$25	1/13
Argentine Tango Beginner - QC*	8	6:15-7:15	\$124	-	1/27
Argentine Tango Beg 1 - JC*	5	6:00-7:00	\$77	-	1/13
Argentine Tango Beg 2 - JC*	5	6:00-7:00	\$77	-	3/3
Argentine Tango Intermed 1- JC*	5	7:00-8:00	\$77	-	1/13
Argentine Tango Intermed 2- JC*	5	7:00-8:00	\$77	-	3/3
Chair Caning	6	6:00-8:30	\$129	varies	1/13
Fly-Tying for Beginners	5	6:00-8:30	\$89	varies	1/13
French 1 ~ Level 2	8	7:00-8:30	\$129	book	1/13
French 3 ~ Level 2	8	5:30-7:00	\$129	-	1/13
Growing Shiitake Mushrooms	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	2/24
Gluten Free Living	1	6:00-8:30	\$24	-	2/10
Gourmet Vegan (Total Vegetarian) Cooking: Register for 1 or more classes					
• Class #1	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	1/13
• Class #2	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	2/3
• Class #3	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	3/3
• Class #4	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	4/7
Knitting & Crocheting 1	10	7:00-9:00	\$144	varies	1/13
Landscape Your Home	8	6:00-9:00	\$144	-	1/13
Stock Market w/ Tony Hartigan	3	6:00-7:30	\$35	-	1/13
Violin Made Easy	10	6:30-8:00	\$129	\$15bk/35rental	1/13
Watercolor	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/13
Yoga	10	5:30-6:30	\$99	-	1/13

NOTE: *QC = Queen City Ballroom - Randy Avis ~ *JC = Jim Clapp

WEDNESDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Archery	4	6:00-7:00	\$74	-	1/15
Ballroom Dance I	8	6:00-7:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/29
Ballroom Dance II	8	7:00-8:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/29
Swing/Night Club Two-Step	8	8:00-9:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/29
Biology w/Lab (HS Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	\$425	\$100	2/12
French Adv. Conversation	8	5:30-7:00	\$129	-	1/15
Italian 2 ~ Level 1	10	6:00-7:30	\$135	-	1/15
Knitting & Crocheting 2	10	7:00-9:00	\$144	varies	1/15
Learn to do Voice Overs	1	7:00-9:00	\$40	-	4/16
Meditation for Life	10	6:00-7:30	\$148	-	1/15
Organic Gardening	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	1/22
Pen & Ink Drawing Techniques	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/15
Photography: The Next Step	10	6:00-8:30	\$174	-	1/15
Piano 1	8	7:20-8:35	\$124	\$9	1/15
Piano 2	8	6:15-7:15	\$106	-	1/15
Rubber Stamping: Register for 1 or more classes					
• Class #1 - Stampin' Techniques	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$5	1/8
• Class #2 - Stampin' Techniques	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$5	1/29
• Class #3 - Stampin' Gifts	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$8	2/12
• Class #4 - Man Cards	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$5	3/5
Russian 1 ~ Level 1	10	7:00-9:00	\$144	\$35	1/15
Russian 1 ~ Level 2	10	5:00-7:00	\$144	book	1/15
Sign Language 1	8	6:00-7:30	\$129	\$34	1/15
Small Engine Repair	8	7:00-9:00	\$134	\$12	1/15
Ukrainian Egg Decorating	2	6:00-7:30	\$34	varies	1/29
Yoga	10	3:30-4:30	\$99	-	1/15



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Courses for those with limited experience/knowledge:

\$95 Basic Computer Skills	6:00-9:00	Jan. 6, 7
\$195 Introduction to Personal Computer	6:00-9:00	Jan. 13, 14, 15, 16
\$195 Introduction to Windows	6:00-9:00	Jan. 27, 28, 29, 30

Word Processing:

\$195 MS-Word ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Feb. 17, 18, 19, 20
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DataBase:

\$195 Ms-Access ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Feb. 10, 11, 12, 13
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Graphic Presentation:

\$195 PhotoShop ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 4, 5, 11, 12
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\$195 PowerPoint ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 10, 11, 12, 13
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Internet:

\$25 Research Your Antiques-Collectables	6:00-7:00	March 4
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\$25 Finding Savings Online	6:00-7:00	January 22
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\$25 Free Software Application	6:00-7:00	February 5
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\$25 Free Post-Secondary Ed/Training Online	6:00-7:00	February 12
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\$150 Introduction to eBay	6:00-8:00	Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26
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Misc:

\$150 MS-Office Overview	6:00-8:00	Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12
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Spreadsheet:

\$195 MS-Excel ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Feb. 3, 4, 5, 6
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Financial:

\$195 QuickBooks ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 3, 4, 5, 6
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TUESDAY





COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Algebra 1 (HS Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	\$425	\$100	2/11
Basic Car Maintenance	8	6:00-8:00	\$128	-	1/14
Bread Making	6	6:00-8:30	\$139	\$25	1/14
Calligraphy for Beginners	4	6:15-7:45	\$64	varies	1/14
Calligraphy Projects	3	6:15-7:45	\$49	varies	2/11
Craft Workshops: Register for 1 or more classes					
• Zentangle	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	1/21
• Painting on Glass	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	2/4
• Decorated Treasure Box	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	2/18
• Decorated Grapevine Wreath	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	3/11
Craft of the Green Wiccan:	10	6:00-8:00	\$144	\$10	1/14
The Wise Woman/Man's Way					
Demystifying Medicare-LTC Insurance	6	7:00-8:00	\$54	-	1/14
Drawing for Beginners	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/14
Gardening:					
• Starting Seeds Indoors	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	1/21
• Growing in High Tunnels	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	2/25
German 1 ~ Level 2	10	5:00-6:00	\$99	-	1/14
German 2 ~ Level 2	10	6:00-7:00	\$99	-	1/14
Italian Adv Conversation	10	6:00-7:30	\$135	-	1/14
Jewelry Metal Casting	8	6:30-8:30	\$137	\$60	1/14
Reiki I	3	6:00-9:00	\$79	-	1/14
Reiki II	3	6:00-9:00	\$89	-	2/4
Spanish 1 Level 3	10	6:00-7:30	\$149	\$26	1/14
Sign Language 1 Continuing	8	6:00-7:30	\$129	-	1/14
Tai Chi ~ Beginner	6	5:30-6:30	\$59	-	1/14
Tai Chi ~ Introduction	4	4:15-5:15	\$39	-	1/14

THURSDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Acrylic Painting ~ Still Life	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/16
Amateur Music Ensemble Preview	1	6:00-7:30	Free	-	12/12
Amateur Music Ensemble	10	7:30-9:00	\$129	-	1/16
Ballroom Dance Intermediate	8	6:00-7:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/30
Ballroom Dance Advanced	8	7:00-8:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/30
Ballroom Performing Fun/Show	8	8:00-9:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/30
French Style Cooking	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	3/27
Gardening:					
• Selling at Farmers Market	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	1/23
• Grow Peppers & Tomatoes	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	2/27
Hypnosis Beginner	3	6:00-7:30	\$49	-	1/16
Hypnosis Advanced	3	6:00-7:30	\$49	-	2/6
Hypnosis:	3	6:00-7:00	\$44	-	2/27
Stress Reduction & Relaxation					
Indian Cuisine Cooking: Register for 1 or more classes					
• Class #1	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	1/16
• Class #2	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	1/30
• Class #3	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	2/13
• Class #4	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	2/27
• Class #5	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	3/13
Laughter is the Best	1	6:30-7:30	\$19	-	2/20
Native People of	6	6:30-8:30	\$119	-	1/16
New England: Pre-Contact to Present					
Rug Braiding	10	7:00-9:00	\$174	\$60+	1/23
Spanish 1 ~ Level 2	10	6:00-7:30	\$149	book	1/16
Using a Digital SLR Camera	10	6:00-8:30	\$174	-	1/16
Vibrant Health Series: Register for 1 or more classes					
• Detox 101	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	-	1/16
• Healthy Green Smoothies	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	\$10	2/6
• Weigh Less, Live More	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	-	3/6
• Kick SUGAR	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	-	3/20

SATURDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Chemistry w/Lab (HS Credit)	15	9:00-Noon	\$425	\$100	2/15
Chinese Games ~ Majiang	3	12:00-2:00	\$55	\$5	2/15
Chinese Conversational Beg	6	9:00-10:30	\$85	\$15	1/25
Chinese Conversational Intermed	6	10:30-12:00	\$85	-	1/25
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POP CULTURE MAKEOVER



These star-crossed interplanetary young parents battle for love in the Saga comic book series.

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

Makeovers aren't just for closets anymore — these days, you need to give your pop culture library regular updates too. Local experts share the trends in comics, games, books, and film that are quickly becoming pop culture essentials.

Games:

Throw a board game party

Video games may be visually stunning but **board games** are trending for their social possibilities, said Scott Proulx, resident game expert and co-owner of Double Midnight Comics in Concord and Manchester.

"Board games bring people together for face-to-face interaction," Proulx said. "You can get a group of friends together, get some drinks, get some food. With a videogame you can chat online with friends but after a while story runs out."

Unlike video games, which are often linear (you have to perform a certain task to get to the next level) no two times playing a board game are ever alike. New board games may seem intimidating to less experienced gamers but there's an option for everyone, even total newcomers. **Ticket to Ride**, **Settlers of Catan**, and **Pandemic** are the most popular games on the market today.

Even though **Ticket to Ride** is beginner-friendly, it doesn't skimp on the fun factor. In this cross-country travel adventure game players collect train cards that enable them to claim railway routes connecting cities throughout North America. The longer the routes, the more points they earn. Expansion sets are also available, which feature boards with maps of Asia, Africa and Europe.

Maybe you're more of a commerce buff than a geography enthusiast? **Settlers of Catan** is one of the most popular games on

the market, particularly with Silicon Valley types, Proulx said. Gamers collect resources to trade and barter with opponents in order to build roads that lead to settlements and cities. It's a moderate-level game with more advanced pieces and gameplay, but after a few rounds, people get right into it, Scott said.

There's even a board game for the communal-minded dogooder type. **Pandemic** offers a refreshing alternative to man versus man competition. Each player has a different task and they work as a group and race the clock to solve a worldwide epidemic.

Books: Young adult at heart

Don't let the genre title fool you. **Young adult novels** aren't just for teens anymore. Adults are adding YA titles to their collections because they tend to be action-packed and full of high quality writing. They also often take on painful matters like abuse, bullying and emotional issues more head-on than adult fiction can, and grown ups appreciate that honesty.

In recent years publishers redefined the parameters of YA, shifting its focus from sixth- to eighth-grade readers to from 19 to 29 year-olds, said Diane Mayr, adult services librarian at Nesmith Library in Windham. "Rather than first love type of stuff, the books are tapping into other things like supernatural themes. I think as long as you can tell a good story you've got an audience" She said.

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins and the **Harry Potter** series by J.K. Rowling only skim the surface of the genre's possibilities. **The Fault in our Stars**, by John Green is touted by critics as one of the best YA novels to date. The story is narrated by a 16-year-old cancer patient named Hazel who falls in love with the seventeen-year-old Augustus Waters, an ex-basketball

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player and amputee. If you are looking for a classic, pick up *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel from author Harper Lee.

Comics: in with the Indie

Trade in those corporate comics for independent titles. Comics today are a lot more diverse than they were 10 to 15 years ago, says Chris Proulx, co-owner of Double Midnight Comics and brother of Scott. That's largely due to the rise of independent serieses and creator-owned comic labels, which allow the original creators to own the trademark and copyright for the work and gives creators "free range to do whatever" and has lead to a widening audience, Proulx said.

Some of the top independant comic books feature relatable characters and plots and veer away from crime-fighting superheroes. To begin your indie book makeover, take a look at two of Proulx's top picks, *Saga*, and *Locke and Key*.

"It's like a Romeo and Juliet in space," said Proulx, describing Image Comic's *Saga*. He admitted that sounds a little cheesy, but the epic space opera boasts superior art and storytelling and modern vernacular that appeals to male and female readers. The two main characters are lovers and parents with a young baby who hail from different planets whose people are at war with one another. Proulx praised the series' strong dialogue, character development and humor.

If suspense drama and a bit of horror is your thing pick up IDW Publishing's *Locke and Key*. The premise centers around a family who moves into an old New England house. They soon discover keys with wondrous powers to unlock magical places. In one episode a key unlocks a room that turns people into ghosts and in another a key is used on the back of the head to unlock memories. The series has also been optioned for a movie, so be on the lookout for that.



world's movie mecca, but when it comes to aesthetics, filmmakers around the globe are coming out on top.

"There is a beauty that is captured in foreign films," said Laina Varakat, executive director of the Monadnock International Film Festival. "There's a care put into their creation that is different than American films."

Films are one of America's top exports, and because of that the industry is commercial and entertainment-driven. There's nothing wrong with that, Varakat said, but in foreign countries the attitude behind filmmaking is different; it's recognized as a hard art form.

For maximum enjoyment, Varakat suggested viewers embark on a foreign film with friends who are interested as well, so they can talk about them after because, "it's only after when you express what you believe about a film that it reveals itself to you," she said. Watch it on a viewing system with good sound and good light.

Some foreign films are also more accessible than others. Iranian director Majid Majidi makes family-friendly, happy films. Majidi is the most well-known Iranian director globally, Varakat said, and his film *Children of Heaven* is "The most beautiful little film. It's so happy and sweet."

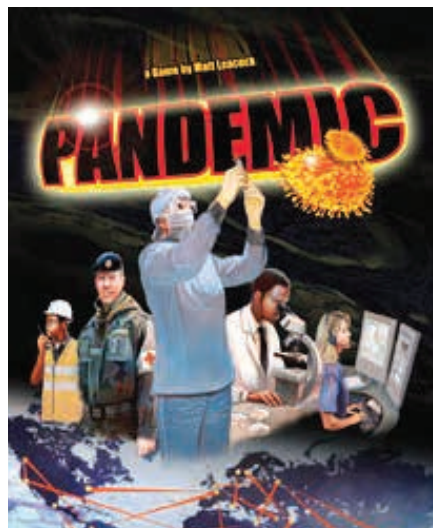
Famous Japanese filmmaker Yasujiro Ozu makes simple family dramas.

"He is always telling the same good story and trying to tell it better every single time," she said. "He's someone who is not in a rush."

On the European front, director Francois Truffaut's *The Four Hundred Blows*, a French new wave coming-of-age story, and Vittorio De Sica's Italian neorealist drama *The Bicycle Thief* are neither too obscure or too obtuse, said writer and director Aaron Wiederspahn of Either/Or Films, a New Hampshire-based film company.

Film: Go foreign

Slow down, find a group of a friends, turn off those cell phones and immerse yourself in a foreign film. Hollywood may be the





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SAT-English	Elective	P.Galamaga	1/4	Tuesday	Feb.11-April 8	3-5pm	\$75
GED-Language	N/A	M.Therriault	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.11-May 27	6-8pm	\$30
Cooking for Today	Elective	E.Greenland	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.11-April 22	6-8pm	\$100+25
Computers in Business	Elective	J.Roy	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.11-April 22	6-8pm	\$100
Chemistry	Academic	K.Hamel	1	Tuesday	Feb.11-May 27	6-8pm	\$175
SAT-Math	Elective	K.Sargent	1/4	Thursday	Feb.13-April 10	3-5pm	\$75
Algebra	Academic	K.Sargent	1	Thursday	Feb.13-May 29	6-8pm	\$160
Physical Science	Academic	K.Greeb	1	Thursday	Feb.13-May 29	6-8pm	\$175
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GED-Math	N/A	B.Carey	N/A	Thursday	Feb.13-May 29	6-8pm	\$30
Backyard Birding	Elective	N.Lambert	1/2	Thursday	March 20-May 29	5-7pm	\$100
Creative Welding	Elective	R.Caradonna	1/2	Thursday	Feb.13-April 24	3:45-5:45pm	\$100+\$50
Creative Welding	Elective	R.Caradonna	1/2	Thursday	Feb.13-April 24	6-8pm	\$100+\$50
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Music-private lessons	Music		N/A	Check web site	By appoint.	By appoint.	\$30.00 per hour
Career Exploration	Enrichment	Colleen McInnis	N/A	By appoint.	By appoint.	By appoint.	Free
Emergency Prepare-CERT Training	Enrichment	S. Jutras	N/A	Tues & Thurs	Feb.11-March 20	6-8pm	Free
Cooking for Today	Enrichment	E.Greenland	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.11-April 22	6-8pm	\$85+25
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Pilates	Enrichment	J.Kuncik	N/A	Thursday	Feb.13-March 27	7-7:45pm	\$75
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ONLINE MAKEOVER

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

How's your LinkedIn profile picture?

Part of starting the year out fresh means cleaning out your old emails and cleaning up your outdated social media profiles. Dyn Content and Marketing Manager Josh Nason and professional organizer Lorraine Falcone offered The Hippo some tips for updating your online persona in 2014. Their secrets? A little maintenance, a bit of pruning and a dash of character.

Overwhelmed with email?

There's no need to feel embarrassed.

"People can absolutely feel overwhelmed while looking at their email," Falcone said in a phone interview. Especially, she said, if their inboxes are cluttered with things like unnecessary promotional messages and unread, outdated newsletters.

The first step, she said, is to eliminate the clutter.

"Everything you're not using should be eliminated. All of the newsletters you've subscribed to, the store promotions -- just unsubscribe," she said. "The best way to stay organized is to stop the clutter from entering your space, whether it be your home or your inbox. ... If you consider yourself overwhelmed with email, look and see where they're coming from and determine systematically what you will never read and eliminate those, and then, what you read, and put them in a folder, so you know exactly where to go when you have time," Falcone said.

A great way to start out the new year fresh, she said, is to create a 2013 folder to put all of your old emails in. Or, if you want to separate your worlds completely -- personal, business, store promotions -- create separate accounts.

Time management is also important when facing clutter.

"I've talked with some people who have tendencies to sit on Facebook or on the web while hours have gone by. ... Try keeping up

with your emails regularly, but not obsessively," she said.

Equally important, give yourself time to not only check but to respond to your email.

"Browsing is wasted time. ... Remember, your inbox is not a storage box. You should take action on the items in there and delete the original when you're done."

The effect of a healthy inbox? "It's just a weight off your shoulders. You don't have the stresses of knowing they're there, the feeling of, 'What have I forgotten?'" Falcone said. "Your friends will also appreciate that they won't have to remind you of the messages they sent you."

Overwhelmed with social media?

If you're going to have one social media account, Dyn Content Marketing Manager Josh Nason says it should be LinkedIn.

"LinkedIn is like Facebook for professionals," Nason said. "You include on it your work history, but also the things you're interested in doing, your areas of expertise. If you're learning things on the side, if you have hobbies, you can list all of that there, too."

The profile summary is kind of like an online resume, but Nason said it's important that it not read like one.

"People love to consume content in different ways. ... Make it interesting, talk about yourself so that people can get a sense of who you are and what you do," Nason said.

Also, be sure to add a great profile picture. The accounts without them, Nason said, appear impersonal; profiles with pictures tend to get more followers because it's a basic human touchpoint.

As for the rest -- keep it simple but flavorful.

"Don't try to build an elaborate profile the first time out. Think of it as an elevator pitch. In a few minutes, what should someone know about you? Write it in a way that someone could read it, consume it, and move on or go to a different section in 30 seconds."



Don't try to build an elaborate profile the first time out. Think of it as an elevator pitch. In a few minutes, what should someone know about you? Write it in a way so that someone could read it, consume it, and move on or go to a different section in 30 seconds."

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Healthy Hearing Tip

By Dr. Beth Ann Jacques

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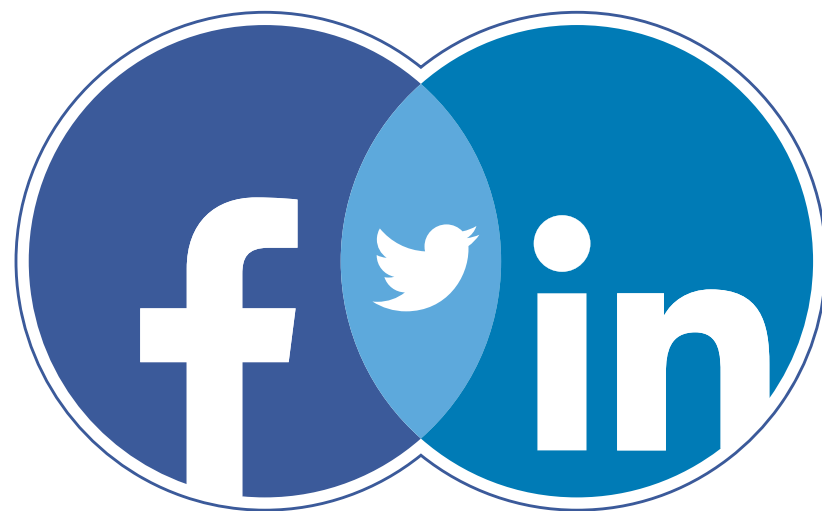
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How you should use your social networks

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If you are interested in other forms of social media, he points to the other two of “the big three” in social networking: Facebook and Twitter. (There are many other forms of social networking sites — etsy, pinterest, Google+ — but he pointed to these three because they’re the most used.)

“I think of it as a Venn diagram. One circle contains Facebook, which is more personal; the other circle is LinkedIn, which is more professional. Where they intersect is Twitter, which can be a great balance of both,” he said.

As such, he advises you use the privacy settings on your Facebook.

“I always think of Facebook as being a pretty personal thing for people,” he said.

Many young professionals, he noted, are looking to make separate, more professional Facebook accounts in their Facebook “makeovers,” but he doesn’t think it’s really necessary. If anything, just enhance your pri-

vacy settings and keep your friends limited to the ones closest to you.

“From a professional standpoint, I wouldn’t friend every single person in your company on Facebook. ... From there, it’s about who you choose to be friends with from a professional level. Invite coworkers in, but remember, what you put out there is a reflection of yourself,” he said.

Nason said it’s of value to utilize social media because lots of companies really do use it in their hiring process, Dyn included. (So keep your LinkedIn and Twitter accounts public.)

“When we hire, we never judge on social profiles alone, unless we see warning signs there. ... But at a conference, the chief marketing officer at Hubspot basically said he doesn’t look at paper resumes anymore. ... There are a lot of companies in the tech spec-



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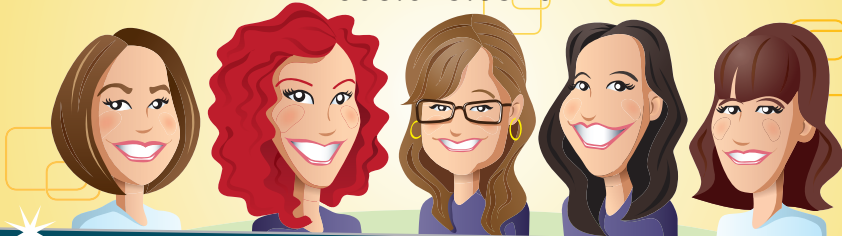
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CLEAN OUT YOUR CUPBOARDS

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

You may think of cleaning out the cupboards as a spring cleaning project, but checking to see how long that box of crackers has been there can be a great way to start the new year.

"Kicking off a new year means looking at the fridge, the freezer and the cabinet, and how can you make some changes to increase the quality of the food and work towards better health," clinical dietitian and Hannaford Supermarket dietitian Marilyn Mills said.

Brrrrr, broccoli (fish, meats and leftovers, too)

Frozen team-bags or boxed vegetables and fruits are a great way to keep fresh produce in your kitchen (and in your diet).

"Their vitamins will be maintained much better frozen, because most fruits and veggies are frozen within hours of being picked," Mills said. "Certainly when I'm looking and recommending frozen veggies I'd like to try to avoid sauces that have been added, because those will be higher in salt and sodium and will have a higher calorie content. ... For fruit I'm looking for no sugar added, so that will resemble the fresh fruit."

Mills also recommends purchasing frozen fish, or freezing chicken, turkey, beef or any other meat in single-serving portions. That way, protein is accessible for a healthy dinner, and freezing in smaller portions can help with maintaining portion control in cooking.

"The other trick that I have is frozen leftovers," Mills said. "We might make a great soup, stew or casserole, but we don't want to eat it in four days in a row. The best thing to do is freeze your soup or casserole in one to two cup portions."

Of course, freezer burn can ruin any meal. It might seem like common sense, but dating frozen goods and putting new items in the back with older items in the front of the freezer can save time and money.

What's in your spice rack?

While cleaning out your kitchen, it's worth taking a look at what spices and herbs you have in stock. Spices and herbs (both whole and ground) add flavor without having to use too much salt.

"I definitely believe in having turmeric," Mills said. "It can be used in both Indian and Asian, Latino cooking, and it's an anti-inflammatory. ... Also ginger, which helps to calm nausea [and] cinnamon, which can help your blood sugar, especially for people that have diabetes."

Oregano and basil are both anti-inflammatory and help with digestion.

When it comes to salt, Mills recommends using salts with a crystalline shape, like sea salt or kosher salt instead of granulated salt.

"You can get away with less," she said. "Your tongue grabs onto the flavor better."

Although spices don't spoil, they can lose flavor. Generally, ground spices can last for two or three years before they lose their potency.

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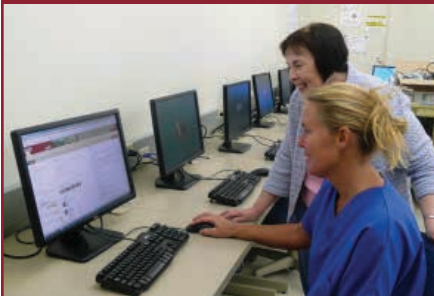
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of the spice aisle in the grocery store is by finding combination herbs and spices that are salt-free. Mills said Perfect Pinch from McCormick's is one type of mixture that can be used on meats, fish and vegetables to provide a lot of flavor without using a lot of salt.

Take a second look at your pantry

Typically, a good rule of thumb when it comes to grocery shopping is to stick to the outer aisles (the dairy, meat and produce sections). That's recommended because the aisles with the most sodium, junk-food and processed foods are located at the center.

That's giving the center aisles a bad rap, though.

Mills recommends stocking up the pantry with a jar of natural nut butter (peanut or almond for example), canned tuna, canned chicken and canned beans for protein.

She added that checking the prices of organic canned fruits and vegetables is also a good tip for integrating organics into your pantry.

"I'm a big fan of having canned diced tomatoes with no salt added in the winter time, because a lot of people say fresh tomatoes aren't the same in winter as they are in the summer," she said.

For grains, Mills said every pantry should be stocked with old-fashioned

oats, quinoa, brown rice and multigrain pasta.

There are sneaky products when it comes to grains though. A seemingly healthy box of rice with a flavor packet can pack a lot of salt.

"Unfortunately, most of them have far more sodium than really necessary to give them flavor," Mills said. "Shake well to distribute and use half of it, and either hold on to the other half to flavor something, or throw it away."

Important perishables

"When you're starting a new year, you may be interested in weight management or improving your immune system. So I would encourage keeping fresh fruits in your fridge," Mills said.

When restocking the fridge, consider options like grapefruits and clementines, since citrus are in season. Eggs are a kitchen essential, but they're also a low-cost and high-quality protein, Mills said.

Try switching out sour cream with plain Greek yogurt. Substituting the Greek yogurt in dips or other recipes can help for making smart choices.

Even buttery spreads are getting a makeover.

"With the new guidelines and recommendations to get the trans-fat out, we're going to see more tubbed spreads that are better for us," Mills said.



Their vitamins will be maintained much better frozen, because most fruits and veggies are frozen within hours of being picked.

MARILYN MILLS

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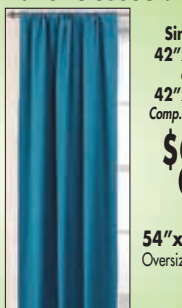
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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT JANUARY 9 - 15, 2014, AND BEYOND



Friday, Jan. 10

Just because movies like *August: Osage County* (starring Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts), *Her* (Spike Jonze latest, starring Joaquin Phoenix) and *Lone Survivor* (a based-on-a-true-story war movie starring Mark Wahlberg) made 2013 top 10 lists didn't mean they were available at a theater near you. To earn award season eligibility, many of these prestige films opened at theaters in New York and Los Angeles before the new year but this Friday we'll finally get to take a look. Those three movies are scheduled to open in wider release today. Find more on other movies in area theaters in the film section on page 64.



Saturday, Jan. 11

Go, daddy-o! Big Bad Voodoo Daddy is playing the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St. in Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 or \$45, depending on seating. The band Tripping Souls opens.



Sunday, Jan. 12

And speaking of movies, the Golden Globes, which hands out awards to both TV shows and movies and is best known for the fact that it's the award show where everyone gets to drink, airs tonight at 8 p.m. on NBC and is hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, everybody's fantasy best friends. Tune in at 7 p.m. for awkward red carpet banter.



Wednesday, Jan. 15

Stephan Long talks about his book *More Than a Woodlot: Getting the Most From Your Family Forest* and about how you can help protect New Hampshire's wildlife at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St. in Nashua, this evening at 7 p.m. Copies of the book will be on sale and available for signing.



Wednesday, Jan. 15

The princesses are in town! The production of "Disney on Ice: Princesses and Heroes" opens today at the Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St. in Manchester, verizonwirelessarena.com; 800-745-3000 for tickets) and runs through Sunday, Jan. 19. Tickets run from \$17 to \$82; see website for details. Find out more about the show at hippopress.com, where you can find a story about the production on page 39. (Click on the most recent copy of the Hippo and then click on the calendar icon on the lower left-hand side of the page and look for the Jan. 2 issue.)

Eat: How easy is that? Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goftownlibrary.com) offers a book club for those who would rather nosh than read — What's Cooking Book Club. The next meeting is Saturday, Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will feature a look at the recipes of Ina Garten's *Barefoot Contessa Foolproof*. Advanced registration is required.

Drink: Snow day

"We do it with our boots on" is the tagline of the Polar Grill Fest, a celebration of food, beer and winter, at Redhook Brewery (1 Redhook Way in Portsmouth, 501-3940, polargrillfest.com) on Saturday, Jan. 25, from noon to 5 p.m. Tickets to the event cost \$5, plan on bringing extra cash to buy food and drink.

Be Merry: LaMarsh

Enjoy the first real post-holiday, post-snow-day weekend with the Chad LaMarsh Band, which will perform Saturday evening, Jan. 11, at the Derryfield (625 Mammoth Road in Manchester, 623-2880, derryfieldrestaurant.com). Find more live music in our weekly Music This Week listing of bands playing at area bars and restaurants, which starts this week on page 70.

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On wheels and caffeine

Palace actors describe upcoming *Xanadu*



The cast promoting *Xanadu* at a roller rink in Tyngsboro, Mass. Courtesy photo.

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

The Palace Theatre starts out 2014 with a wild addition to Artistic Director Carl Rajotte’s already-famous theatrical choreography: roller skates.

Based on the horrifically-reviewed 1980 film starring Olivia Newton-John that barely broke even at box offices, the stage production of *Xanadu* takes what’s good about the film — the music, which, despite everything else that was horrible, helped the movie become a cult classic — and fits it onstage. The result, say Palace actors and staff, is quite entertaining.

Whitney Meyer, who plays Clio (Kira), said in a phone interview that her stomach hurt from laughing so hard during the first couple days of rehearsals. She was at

rehearsals, skates strapped on, during the call.

“The onstage version is hilarious. It’s like a cartoon, over-the-top version of the movie, not meant to be taken literally,” she said.

This is the second time at the Palace she’ll depict an Olivia Newton-John film role; last year, she played Sandy in *Grease*. Clio, she said, is a similar kind of character. She’s the sweet, pretty, innocent girl that every guy dreams of, but on caffeine.

“It’s an insane amount of sweetness! ... But the music is pretty fun, too,” she said.

Xanadu is a fantastical story about mythology, love, art and disco. The stage production follows the Greek muses (who are daughters of Zeus) in their attempts to inspire a Los Angeles chalk artist, Sonny Malone, who’s dissatisfied with his

work and is determined to kill himself. Clio comes up with the idea to inspire him with 1980s acrobatics: a roller disco. Zeus agrees to the plan, but he requires that his daughters be disguised as mortals and that they not fall in love while on Earth.

The muses decide to change their names, sport Australian accents and wear contemporary clothing — it’s the ’80s, so it’s bright colors and leg-warmers. The roller disco would occur in a long-abandoned theater called Xanadu. Yet, not all of the muses are pleased with this plan; two of Clio’s sisters, Melpomene and Calliope, are jealous that Clio is the leader of the muses and ploy to have her banished by tricking her to fall in love with Sonny.

Needless to say, it happens. But in this show, you might notice a bit of extra chemistry in the leading romantic pair. Whitney Meyer (Clio) and Nathan Meyer (Sonny) are in love offstage, too.

“I love performing with my wife,” Nathan said over the phone at rehearsals.

He describes his character, Sonny, as a chill, California airhead.

“It’s my favorite thing the world. We love being together and to be able to do what we love together. ... That was the No. 1 pull for me in doing this show.”

The pair also performed together at the Palace in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and in *Hairspray*, in which they performed as Amber and Link.

Carl Rajotte had been wanting to bring *Xanadu* to the Palace for some time now, Palace Director of Marketing Chris Lockwood said in a phone interview. This year’s show lineup provided a perfect opportunity.

“When we were looking at filling the space this year, there were specific things

See *Xanadu*

Where: Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester

When: Saturday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday Jan. 12, at 2 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 17, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 18, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.

Admission: Tickets range in price, \$15 to \$45
Contact: palacetheatre.org, 668-5588

we wanted to do. We realized we didn’t have a real kid-friendly show, which we felt was really important to put on this year, something that children could come to. ... Carl also thought it would be a great challenge, to bring roller skating into the choreography,” Lockwood said.

Xanadu is a small cast — nine actors total — and while most of the actors had experience roller skating, few had ever performed in skates, onstage or otherwise. (The exception is Nathan Meyer; he plays Sonny but has performed as Hot Blades Harry in *Urinetown*.)

Whitney Meyer says the roller skating adds a lot of fun but a bit of pressure for the performers.

“I grew up roller skating. The last time I went was five years ago, in college with some friends. ... We’ve gone to the rink once as a cast,” Whitney Meyer said.

If you haven’t seen the film version, no fear; neither has Jenna Kantor, who plays Calliope.

“They’re not connected very much at all,” Kantor said, also during rehearsals over the phone. “It’s [the play] mostly making fun of the film’s cheesiness. I think people will laugh a lot and enjoy the humor.”

38 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more.
To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

Theater

- **THE DEVIL’S MUSIC: THE LIFE AND BLUES OF BESSIE SMITH** shows at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 132 Warren St., Lowell, Mass., 978-654-7550, mrt.org, runs Jan. 9 through Feb. 2. Tickets start at \$20.
- **LE PETIT PRINCE** by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, Jan. 10 through Jan. 26. Tickets \$24. Call 431-6644, ext. 5, or email reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.
- **THE AMERICAN DREAM**

play reading and discussion on Sun., Jan. 12, at 2 p.m., at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org. Free with museum admission, read by theatre KAPOW!.

- **THE DEVIL MUSIC: THE LIFE AND BLUES OF BESSIE SMITH** at Merrimack Repertory Theatre (132 Warren St., Lowell) on Sun., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.
- **THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK MUSICAL** performed by the Rochester Opera House Productions at the Rochester Opera House, City Hall, 31 Wakefield St., Roches-

39 Art

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To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

ter, Jan. 16 through Feb. 2. Tickets \$16-\$20. Call 335-1992.

- **FINDING THE PRINCE** at West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, Jan. 10 through Jan. 26, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. General admission \$24. Call 431-6644, ext. 5, email reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.
- **APRIL VERCH, HAYES GRIFFIN, CODY WALTERS** perform Irish step dance/music on Thurs., Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m., at Franklin Opera House, 316 Central St., Franklin. Tickets \$22, available by box office or phone at 934-1901, franklinop-

erahouse.org.

- **THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE** produced by Palace Youth Theatre at 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Tues., Jan. 14, at 7 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 15, at 7 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 21, at 7 p.m.; and Wed., Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. Call 668-5588, visit palacetheatre.org.
- **THE LARAMIE PROJECT** presented by Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts, presented in conjunction with Derry Greater Arts Council, on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 24, at 7 p.m.; and Sat., Jan. 25, at 2 p.m., at Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway Derry. Tickets \$12

41 Classical

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adults, \$10 seniors and youth. Show rated PG-13. Visit majestictheatre.net, call 669-7469.

- **MASKED MARVELS & WONDERTALES** at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, on Sun., Jan. 26, at 1 and 4 p.m. For all ages. Tickets \$20. Call 225-1111, visit ccanh.com.
- **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** youth production at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, on Fri., Jan. 17 at 8 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 18, at 2 and 8 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 19, at 2 and 7 p.m.

Tickets \$20.

- **THE RHYTHM OF THE NIGHT ROCKS THE AUDI** on Sat., Jan. 18, at 7 p.m., at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. 100 prima dancers from six area dance schools in 26th annual dance extravaganza. Tickets \$6. Call 344-4747, email nhdm40@comcast.net.
- **TIMBER** by Cirque Alfonse, Acadian music, juggling axes, acrobatic stunts, at Dana Center, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, on Sat., Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$33.75. Call 641-7700, email dana@anselm.edu.

CURTAIN

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Notes from the theater scene

• **Your inner prince:** The New Hampshire Theatre Project's 25th anniversary season continues with an original production created by Genevieve Aichele, CJ Lewis and Shay Willard called *Finding the Prince*. The show, which occurs at West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, from Jan. 10 through Jan. 26, is about three soldiers and one journalist who have crashed in the desert during a nameless war, as described in a press release. During their struggle to survive, they read the tattered novel a dying soldier left them. Along the way, each character comes to terms with his or her "little prince," or the "deepest, sweetest part of us we're afraid to share with others." The show incorporates live-action, projected images, video sequences, interviews with military vets, music and brief passages from the book, *The Little Prince*. Tickets are \$24, available by calling 431-6644 or emailing reservations@nhtheatreproject.org. The show is recommended for audiences 13 and older.

• **Calling all Shreks:** The Palace Theatre holds auditions for its youth theater production of *Shrek: The Musical* on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 2, 3 or 4 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. or noon, at The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. To schedule your audition, call the theater at 668-5588. Auditioners should expect to stay for the entire one-hour time slot, at which time they'll learn a dance and be asked to sing afterward (no CD, no piano). Once cast, there's a \$100 production fee. Email natesawyer@palacetheatre.org.

• **More auditions:** The New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus is looking for new singers to perform in its Spring 2014 concert series, "It's Showtime! Music from Stage & Screen" on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 6:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m., at the Brookside Congregational Church, 2013 Elm St., Manchester, in the Manning House. All gay or gay-friendly men who love to sing are invited to join. Visit nhgmc.com.



Blair Hundertmark, who performs in The New Hampshire Theatre Project's *Finding the Prince*, which shows starting this weekend. Photo by Shay Willard/CJ Lewis.

com or visit facebook.com/nhgmc for more information.

• **A season about the girls:** At the Andy's Winter Gala on Dec. 28, Andy's Summer Playhouse Producing Artistic Director DJ Potter announced that its 2014 summer season will celebrate roles and role models for girls. (Last year, girls made up 60 percent of the show's participants.)

"The 2014 season will present stories from history and imagination about women adventurers and artists; there will be roles for girls and boys, and more professional women directors than we have had in the recent past. We are also excited to bring back Andy's touring production to serve more kids and reach more communities," Potter said in a press release.

The touring production will travel to four or five towns, depending on available sponsorship, outside of Andy's home base in Wilton. Auditions for the productions (which include *The Strongest Girl in the World*, *The Block*, *Circumference* and *Phantasmagoria*) are on Saturday, March 15, in Milford. Visit andys2014auditions.eventbrite.com to sign up for a slot. The nonprofit children's theater has been providing youth ages 8 to 18 the chance to work with professional artists for the past 43 years.

• **New Hampshire Theatre Awards announcements:** Top ten were announced at the end of December, and the winners of the 12th Annual New Hampshire Theatre Awards will be announced on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m., at the Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Tickets are \$20 per person; visit nhtheatreawards.org. — *Kelly Sennott*

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Art

Art events

• **BECK'S ARTS EXPRESS** Open House Fri., Jan. 10, 5:30-7 p.m., at 491 Amherst St., Nashua. Snacks, crafts, discounts for class registration. Call 566-1393, visit artsexpressnh.com/class.html.

• **"SCULPTED AESTHETIC"** one-night gallery show at SOPHA (Studio of Photographic Arts), 15 Merrill St., Manchester, 782-8403, on Fri., Jan. 10, 6:30-10 p.m. Art inspired by female figure

competitors. (May contain artistic nudity.) Art by Bud Thorpe.

• **NAAA WINTER WARM-UP EXHIBITION** on Sun., Jan. 26, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at Hunt Building, 6 Main St., Nashua. Categories include watercolor, oil, pastel, drawing, mixed media, photography, digital art, fine jewelry. Visit nashuaareaartistsassoc.org. Free.

Exhibit openings

• **"ART AMONG US"** features work of the board, teachers and

committee members of Main Street Art at 75 Main St., Newfields, Jan. 10 through Jan. 31. Reception on Fri., Jan. 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Visit newfieldsart.org.

• **"PICASSO ESTATE COLLECTION"** on view at the Rochester Museum of Fine Arts, 18 N. Main St., Rochester, rochestermfa.org, on view Feb. 2 through March 29. Reception on Sat., Feb. 2, 7-9 p.m., light refreshments.

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ART

The American Dream?

theatre KAPOW! heads to the Currier for play reading

Wayne Asbury, Carey Cahoon, Peter Josephson, and Gina Carballo in theatre KAPOW's ARTiculate Playreading Series at the Currier Museum of Art. Photo by Matthew Lomanno Photography.

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

In 1961, artist Robert Indiana was so inspired by Edward Albee's play *The American Dream* that he decided to give his to-be-famous painting the same name.

After learning this at a Currier Museum staff meeting, theatre KAPOW! cofounder Carey Cahoon got the idea to read the play in conjunction with the museum's print exhibition, "Signs from the Sixties: Robert Indiana's 'Decade,'" which houses this very print.

The theater company will read Albee's *The American Dream* as the second installment of its ARTiculate Playreading Series, which gives people a chance to hear new or rarely produced plays that relate to special exhibitions at the Currier Museum of Art. The first, *Time Stands Still*, was met with success, said Cahoon; it prompted great discussions about the museum's then featured exhibition, "Visual Dispatches from the Vietnam War," and she hopes the same will be true this time.

"I think it's a really great way to connect the issues that the play and the art are dealing with, to come at it from two different angles," Cahoon said in a phone interview.

Assistant curator at the Currier (and curator of this show) Nina Gara Bozicnik is particularly excited about this reading. The pieces complement one another, and not just because one inspired the other. Both Albee's *The American Dream* and Indiana's "The American Dream" take a critical look at America in the late 1950s.

"Albee's play and the print 'The American Dream' ... share a critical attitude toward the state of American society in the late 1950s and early '60s, a result of exponential growth of consumer culture and an American middle class after World War II," Bozicnik wrote in an email.

When Albee wrote the play, the idea of the

perfect American family was rooted between *Father Knows Best* and *The Donna Reed Show*, Cahoon wrote in a press release. The one-act play, first staged Jan. 24, 1961 in New York City, consists of just one scene — Cahoon will perform stage directions in lieu of an actual stage — but uncovers the truth behind this so-called American Dream.

"It's a mysterious, satirical, funny and disturbing play," said Peter Josephson, who will read the part of Daddy. "And it's 50 years old. I think it's pretty surprising to read a 50-year-old play like this. ... It has all of the hallmarks of Albee's writing. It's very precise, very penetrating, and there are many layers to it, which actors like."

The company is also performing Albee's *The Zoo Story* in the spring.

"There are only so many full productions we can put on each year," Cahoon said. "It was Matthew's [Cahoon, her husband and company co-founder] idea to perform readings or shows related to the Currier's art."

Gail Angellis will read as Mommy, Donna Goldfarb will read as Grandma, Glenn Provost will read as the Young Man and Deb Shaw will read as Mrs. Barker. At the end of the play, a discussion will be facilitated by Bozicnik and Dr. Meaghan Cronin of Saint Anselm College.

"I think that hearing the play and seeing the exhibition together will be a much more fulfilling experience than doing either of those things separately," Josephson said.

Hear theatre KAPOW! read *The American Dream* by Edward Albee

Where: The Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester

When: Sunday, Jan. 12, at 2 p.m.

Admission: Free with museum admission: \$10 for adults, \$9 for students, \$5 for youth and free for children 13 and younger.

LOCAL
COLOR —
NH art world news

• **Travel the world with art:** Children of all ages can explore countries and cultures from around the world at the Studio 550 February Art Camp. During this “five-day journey,” students will learn through clay, music, movement, leather, paper arts and puppetry. The camp is for children 6 and older. They can register for just the morning session (9 a.m. to noon) or just the afternoon session (12:30-3:30 p.m.). The cost is \$145 for each or \$255 for both. Visit 550arts.com, call 232-5597.

• **Calling “Business in the Arts” nominations:** Nominations are now being accepted for the 2014 Business in the Arts Awards. Sponsored by the New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts, the awards publically recognize and honor those businesses and business leaders that have significant impact on the state’s artistic and cultural community. Businesses of all sizes can be nominated for their support in sponsorships; for their volunteer involvement; for their provision of in-kind goods/services; and for their involvement in arts in advertising/marketing. Nominations are due by Feb. 7. Visit nhbca.com or call 224-8300 for more information. Those winners will be honored in May at a banquet at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester.



Studio 550 hosts a February camp that takes kids around the world. Courtesy photo.

• **Opening this weekend:** The Currier Museum of Art opens “Exploring the Currier Inside Out: Andrew Witkin, Among Others” this weekend. It’s part of the museum’s “Contemporary Connections” series, which features work by early- and mid-career artists and invites visitors to experience artistic perspectives that expand on the Currier’s collections, architecture, regional history and geography. It opens on Saturday, Jan. 11. Call 669-6144, visit currier.org.

• **Open House event:** Beck’s Arts Express invites the public to attend an Open House event on Friday, Jan. 10, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at 491 Amherst St., Unit 25, Nashua. At this time, visitors can have a snack, make a craft or two for free and receive a discount for class registration. (Most classes are between \$120 and \$145 for eight weeks). Call 566-1393 or email admin@artsexpressnh.com. — *Kelly Sennott*

on view now through Jan., monotypes by Annick Bouvron-Gromek, Bill Childs, Barbara Cowan, Pam Lawson and Doris Rice at Seacoast Artists Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter, seacoastartist.org. Closing reception on Sat., Jan. 25, 2-4 p.m. Refreshments.

• **“SMALL WORKS PART II”** on view at Lucy’s Art Emporium, LLC, 303 Central Ave., Dover, lucysartemporium.com, through January. Each piece is smaller than 12”x12”.

• **MICHAEL MOORE** shows art at Hancock Town Library, 25 Main St., Hancock, Jan. 4 through Feb. 13, during regular library hours. Call 525-4411 before visiting.

• **NASHUA AREA ARTISTS’ ASSOCIATION EXHIBITION** at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, through January and February. Oils, acrylics, pastels, watercolors, photographs, digital art. Visit nashualibrary.org/directions.htm.

• **“LOVE, LUST & DESIRE”** on view at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, Jan. 28 through Feb. 14. Reception on Fri., Jan. 31, 5-7 p.m. Call 225-2515, visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **“EXPLORING THE CURRI-**

ER INSIDE OUT: ANDREW WITKIN” exhibit Jan. 11 through May 11 at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org.

• **“ART AND BLOOM”** at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, Jan. 23 through Jan. 25. Reception Thurs., Jan. 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Presented by Concord Garden Club, featuring floral arrangements inspired by artwork.

Classical

• **BACH’S LUNCH LECTURE SERIES** at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, Thursdays 12:10-12:50 p.m., free, bring bag lunch. Schubert music concert on Thurs., Jan. 9, by Gregg Pauley and Mark Andrew Cleveland. Call 228-1196, visit ccmusicschool.org.

• **WOMEN SINGING OUT! CONCERT** at Christ Episcopal Church, 1035 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, on Sat., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m., and Sun., Jan. 12, at 3 p.m. Tickets \$12-\$15. Visit womensingingout.org.

• **NH GAY MEN’S CHORUS “A ROSE IN WINTER”** extra concert on Sun., Jan. 12, at Wesley United Methodist Church, 79 Clinton St., Concord, nhgmc.com. Tickets \$20.

• **CONCORD COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL STUDENT RECITAL** on Fri., Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. CCMS students of all ages perform instrumental and vocal selections, at 23 Wall St., Concord. Call 228-1196, visit ccmusicschool.org. Free.

• **UNH DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY CONCERT SERIES** on Sat., Jan. 18, at 2 p.m., at Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Free. Margaret Herlehy, Janet Polk and Arlene Kies present program of Beethoven and Christopher Kies.

• **CONCORD COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION MATINEE CONCERT** on Sun., Jan. 19, at 3 p.m., at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Musical celebration on MLK weekend featuring Dartmouth College Gospel Choir. Tickets \$18, available at UPS Store and Gibson’s Bookstore, S. Main St., Concord. Call 344-4747, email nhd40@comcast.net.

• **CONCORD COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL JAZZ DEPT. RECITAL** at 23 Wall St., Concord, on Tues., Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. Call 228-1196, visit ccmusicschool.org.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Climbing the stairs of Machu Picchu

First-hand accounts of exotic travels



Machu Picchu. Photo courtesy of Bryan and Linda Higgs.

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

Have you ever wanted to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, or the stairs at Machu Picchu? The world is full of fascinating places, and the Nashua Public Library is bringing these exotic destinations right to your fingertips.

The Exotic Destinations program features a presentation about a new place or accomplishment each Thursday at the Nashua Public Library.

“We always found that travel is a topic that draws a lot of people,” said Carol Eyman, outreach and community services coordinator. “Travel and hiking and archeology are big topics. This was a way to pull it all together with a common theme.”

The library did the program a couple years ago and featured presentations

Exotic Destinations

Where: Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St.
When: Thursdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30
Cost: Free
Contact: Carol Eyman carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org or 589-4610
Visit: nashualibrary.org

about haunted lighthouses in New England, climbing Mt. Everest, traveling to China and a man who rode his motorcycle all the way to Argentina.

Eyman meets with other librarians often to create good programs at the library. Most of the presenters come from recommendations.

“I like programs that are educational but fun,” Eyman said. “With Mt. Kilimanjaro, he tells you about the climb, but talks about the different climates that he went through and really focuses on that.”

Bryan and Linda Higgs traveled to Machu Picchu a few years ago. Machu Picchu, the ancient ruins of the Incas, sits high in the Peruvian Andes of Peru. The Higgs will take listeners through a virtual tour of their vacation to help them understand the site’s history, see local craft-making, such as pottery and weaving, and visit the ancient capital of Cusco.

“It had always been a bucket list item for me,” Bryan Higg said. “To me, it was just so mysterious.”

Though it took some travel time to get into Machu Picchu since there are no roads to it, it was well worth it for the Higgs. After taking a bus into the sacred valley

of the Incas, the Higgs were able to learn about the culture. From there, the only way up to Machu Picchu was a narrow gauge railway ride or a hike on the Inca trail. The Higgs chose the comfort of the railway ride.

“My expectations were high for Machu Picchu, so I figured I’d be disappointed after seeing it,” Higg said. “But it was just the opposite. It was just such a magical experience.”

They arrived early in the morning to

walk around the ruins.

“It was a good time to go there,” Higg said. “It is so amazing in so many ways.”

The Higgs were able to learn a lot about history on their trip as well. According to Bryan Higgs, Inca is the term used for the emperor of the empire. The people actually refer to themselves as Quechua.

“One of the things that’s amazing is that the Quechua people had no written language,” Higg said. “The stonework was amazing, these large pieces of rock that fit so well together that you couldn’t put a credit card through them. They were very good at masonry.”

The Higgs will present a DVD of their trip for their presentation at the Nashua Library to convey what their trip was like.

Bryan and Linda Higgs will talk about their trip to Machu Picchu on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m.

More Exotic Destination presentations

The library will also host “**Biking Around the World**” with cyclist Denis Beaudry on Thursday, Jan. 9. Beaudry traveled 9,623 miles on his bicycle over the course of 121 days and will share his stories and photos of the many cultures and geography he experienced throughout his trip.

“**Kilimanjaro: Journey to the Roof of Africa**” will be held Thursday, Jan. 23, with wildlife and adventure photographer Peter Christoph. Christoph will showcase his photography through five different climate zones, from tropical rain forest to arctic conditions, as he hiked up the tallest mountain in Africa. “**Insiders Guide to Russia**” will be held on Thursday, Jan. 30, with a presentation about traveling to Russia.

The presentations are free and open to the public. 🍌



Local Quechua people. Photo courtesy of Bryan and Linda Higgs.

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Arts and crafts

The Nashua Gallery (98 Main St., Nashua, 595-8233, nhcrafts.org) will have a **nuno felt scarf making class** on Saturday, Jan. 11, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The class is open to ages 12 and up and the fee is \$50. There is also a \$40 fee for materials. Call to register.

The Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org) will have a **Crazy Craft Day** as part of January fun days on Saturday, Jan. 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drop by the library to make a craft to bring home. There is also a raffle to enter. Crafts will be made as supplies last.

See a show

Hollis Brookline High School (24 Cavalier Court, Hollis, 465-2269, hollisbrookline.org) will host **HB Idol** on Friday, Jan. 10, from 7 to 9 p.m. The competition will have an *American Idol* format and contestants will compete in singing live. The age range of contestants is fourth grade to seniors. The cost is \$5 per person.

The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Cen-

ter (2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-7827, starhop.com) will be showing the planetarium show **Black Holes** on Friday, Jan. 10, at 4 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 4 p.m. and again on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 4 p.m. The show will be a journey through the universe to learn about black holes. The show is \$5 plus the general admission fee.

Play outside

The Cumings Conservation Center (126 South Road, Deerfield, 463-3086, cumings.org) will have **Family in the Woods Day** on Saturday, Jan. 11, from noon to 4 p.m. There will be sledding and snowshoeing, a guided hike and a bonfire. Bring your Christmas tree to burn in the bonfire. There will also be crafts and food and music. Cost is \$20 per family.

Hobby time

The Clark School (14 Foundry St., Amherst, 673-2343, sau39.org) will hold the **Start Smart Basketball program** for 5 and 6 year olds beginning on Saturday, Jan. 11, from 10 to 11 a.m. The program will run through Feb. 22. The program is \$50 for non-resident and \$40 for residents. There is also a program for kids ages 3 and 4.

The Pelham Public Library (24 Village Green, Pelham, 635-7581, pelhampubliclibrary.org) will host a **storytime with daddy and donuts** on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 10:30 a.m. All ages are welcome to attend.

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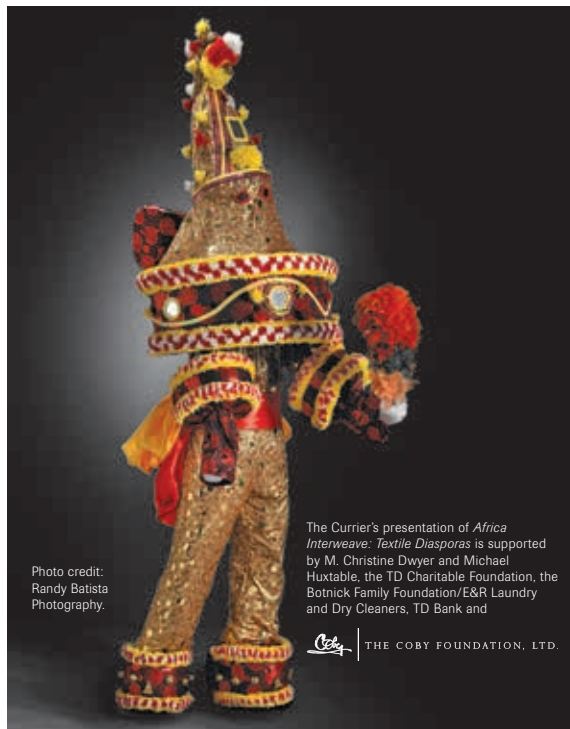


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Randy Batista
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The Currier's presentation of *Africa Interweave: Textile Diasporas* is supported by M. Christine Dwyer and Michael Huxtable, the TD Charitable Foundation, the Botnick Family Foundation/E&R Laundry and Dry Cleaners, TD Bank and

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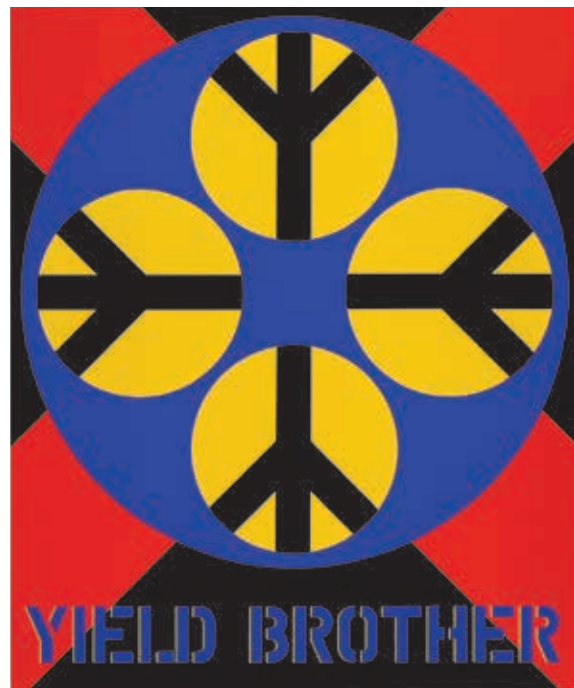
EXPLORING THE CURRIER INSIDE OUT Andrew Witkin, Among Others



JANUARY 11-MAY 11, 2014

The Currier's presentation of *Exploring the Currier Inside Out: Andrew Witkin, Among Others* is generously supported by the NBT Fund.

SIGNS OF THE SIXTIES Robert Indiana's *Decade*



ON VIEW THROUGH APRIL 27, 2014

This exhibition is supported by David & Dorothea Jensen and Barbara & Harry Shepler.
IMAGE: Robert Indiana, 1962, *Yield Brother*, 1971, screenprint, 39 in. x 32 in. Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH © 2013 Morgan Art Foundation / Artist Rights Society (ARS), New York.

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IN/OUT THE GARDENING GUY

Garden resolutions

Dozens of projects on the horizon

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

On a sunny winter day I walked around my property and made a list of projects I should do in 2014. I knew I'd find a few but easily found a dozen. Maybe these will encourage you to make your own resolutions for the upcoming year.

In general I am pretty satisfied with my gardens. Yes, they always have some weeds – both in the vegetable garden and in my flower beds. I resolve to weed more in 2014, and, more importantly, to take my own advice and weed for at least a few minutes every day. Even 5 or 10 minutes each day makes a big difference, I know it.

And there are some 'vigorous' plants that have taken over sections of some beds and need to be cleaned out or gotten under control. I resolve to work harder at doing so. I have some goutweed (*Aegopodium podagraria*) that has taken over a few places, and I know now that it is impossible to totally rid my gardens of it. Even if I were willing to use powerful chemical herbicides, which I am not, I cannot get rid of it. I will, however, work harder at keeping it contained. I will try to contain it with landscape fabric covered with bark mulch.

I need to clear out young trees that are popping up around older trees. Trees drop seeds, and too many of those seeds germinate and start to grow — even if they are just a few inches from a mature tree. These babies crowd existing trees, and basically have no future. Instead of letting a young maple grow six inches from a mature pine tree, better to cut it off at the base. This is work that I can do now, before heavy snows fall. I can cut these fledglings off right at ground level.

It is time to add some limestone or wood ashes to my lawn around my maples. This is something I can do now. Maples suffer from the effects of acid rain: the much needed calcium in the soil gets dissolved and washes away. I have a few old sugar maples that are in poor health so I will give them a nice shot of calcium (in the form of wood ash) that I will spread around the trees. How much? I suppose I should get a soil test done and weigh out the quantity of ash according to a formula. But so long as I don't add an excessive quantity, I feel a "good sprinkling" is fine.

I have two cedar structures that I built for supporting vines and both need some attention, which I resolve to give them in 2014. One is a simple entry way with a sloped "roof" that leads into my vegetable garden; it supports a clematis and a wisteria "Amethyst Blue." The other is a hexagon with a tall teepee-like roof that supports a "Blue Moon" wisteria and some grapes. The sup-



porting structures are made from cedar fence posts (which last almost forever), but the thin branches of cedar I used for the roofs have started to rot and fall apart after 15 years or so. I was determined to make the repairs in 2013 but failed to do so.

I have some wetlands behind my stream that I have never utilized fully. The area is mostly grown up in willows and alders. This year I'd like to get rid of some of those, and plant more colorful shrubs: winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), red- and yellow-twigged dogwood (*Cornus sericea*). I have planted some marsh marigolds in that area, but they are largely obscured. It's time to clean out some of the volunteer growth. I want to keep it wild looking, not manicured, but I do love color in wintertime.

And speaking of willows, I have a willow that I planned to keep about 10 feet tall or so, but it has gotten to be more than twice that. I will do some radical pruning this year and next. One should never hack a tree back (I mean prune) more than 30 percent in a year, so I can't do it all at once.

I have a Darwinian flower bed, one that I NEVER weed, one where only the fittest survive, but this coming year I resolve to do a little work there. The tall goldenrods, as much as I love them, have become too dominant. They are elbowing out the fall asters and a few other things. So I mowed the bed last fall, and will try to identify and dig up some of the goldenrods (*Solidago spp.*) in June. Maybe that will mean finding a young helper with a strong back to work with me.

I planted a spirea 'Mellow Yellow' in a dry shady place a few years ago after seeing one growing in a woodland garden in Lyme. But mine has not developed the good color I saw there, so in 2014 I shall move it to a sunnier location. Shade comes in many varieties, and I think more sun will help this plant.

Send me your resolutions; if I get enough good suggestions, maybe I can do a column on them. I'm at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. I will only use first names and towns.

Henry Homeyer is a gardening teacher, coach and public speaker. 🍷



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What is the cause of hot floorboards?



Dear Tom and Ray:

My 2002 Honda Odyssey (96,000 miles) has been a great car, other than having to replace the transmission at 60,000. When we take a road trip, we notice that after about two hours on the highway, the floor of the car just behind the front passenger seat gets hot — really hot! The underside of the right, middle-row seat gets uncomfortably hot to the touch, too. We took the car in to our regular mechanic who said everything is fine as long as nothing is glowing under the car when it gets that hot. I'm not confident I would be able to see something glow in broad daylight. What do you think is causing this? — Beth

TOM: It sounds like the heat is coming from a catalytic converter, Beth. There's one right in the spot you describe.

RAY: It may be something minor, like a missing heat shield. Or it could be something more significant. But it was lame of your mechanic to send you on your way without bothering to figure out what's wrong.

TOM: So you have two problems: A heat problem, and a mechanic problem. If you don't feel that your mechanic is willing to put in the time to figure this out, then find someone else (check the Mechanics Files at cartalk.com for a free list of highly recommended mechanics by ZIP code). Because, of course excessive heat can be a fire hazard.

RAY: There are three possibilities that come to mind. The simplest is that a heat shield has corroded and fallen off. Parts that get very hot, like catalytic converters, are surrounded by shielding material to prevent the heat from igniting something nearby.

TOM: But heat shields are made of cheap metal, and eventually they fall off, or start making so much rattling noise that people remove them. So first you want to see if your heat shield is intact.

RAY: The second possibility is that something's wrong with the engine that's causing your converter to run hot. If your fuel-air

mixture is too rich ... gasoline will get combusted in the converter instead of in the engine. And that can produce a lot of heat.

TOM: The final possibility is that your converter is plugged up. That's what happens when converters get old. Typically, you'll notice a drop in power because exhaust is unable to leave the engine freely, but you might not notice it. A plugged converter will run hot, and eventually glow.

RAY: Whatever it is, though, get it figured out and address it.

Dear Tom and Ray:

You were answering a question a few weeks ago about what type of oil to use (5W-30, 10W-40, etc.). My question is: What does the "W" mean? For years, I understood it to mean "weight." But then I read some literature published by Shell Oil Co. stating that the "W" meant "winter," and that "weight" was a misnomer. — Fred

RAY: It's "winter" Fred. Oil's viscosity — or thickness — is described as an oil's "weight," so that's probably why there's confusion about what the "W" means.

TOM: According to the American Petroleum Institute, which is sort of the Vatican of oil, when you see a designation that reads, for instance, 5W-20, it means that the oil

acts like 20-weight oil in the summer — or, generally, in hot weather. And it acts like a lighter, 5-weight oil in the winter, or in cold weather.

RAY: Now, since you're an inquisitive fellow, Fred, you probably want to know why it's not labeled "5W-20S," then?

TOM: Because the "summer" designation is unnecessary. Obviously, if one number is the cold-weather number, the other must be for hot weather. It's why boxes sometimes say "This side up" but don't bother also saying "This side down."

RAY: Wouldn't it be more useful if boxes DID say "This side down" or "Other side up," instead of "This side up"? I mean, once you can see the words "This side up," you already have that side up!

TOM: Have we answered Fred's question?

RAY: I think so. I mean, Fred, I'm sure you understand why we have multi-viscosity oil. In the old days, people had to drain out their summer-weight oil in the fall and put in winter-weight oil. That was a pain in the butt.

TOM: But when it's winter, you want a lighter oil so the engine's parts can move through it more easily. ... So now, oils miraculously (I think) vary their viscosity to adapt to conditions. 🍌

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086980

Dear Donna,
I am hoping you might be able to help me. Could you tell me if there is a specific company that produced depression glass? I have several boxes from my parents, and we are just now trying to sort it out, my sister and I.

It's hard to try to figure all the colors and designs. Is there a place you could suggest to me where to find more information on it? Any help would be appreciated.

— Jan of Bedford

Dear Jan,
You're right when you say it's tough to figure out. This is with any glass ware from the Depression era all the way through to now. There were so many manufacturers and still are.

Depression glass is glassware manufactured during the Depression ea, so this would have been in the 1930s. Depression glass is tough unless you know the pattern name; luckily most books have pictures so you can compare the pictures to what you have and get a name.

Just because the glass is colored doesn't mean it's Depression glass, so it could be later or even just made during the era but not by a Depression glass manufacturer. Most, but not all, Depression glass is pretty common because they mass produced it.

There are patterns and colors that they only made so much of, so the value on those would

be high. Colors such as blue, pink and green are more desirable than amber, yellow or clear (but even in these colors you might find a piece that could be rare and sought after, so be careful).

Above all, when you go through the glass make sure none of it is chipped or cracked. Also run a cotton ball along the edges and if it gets stuck anywhere check the spot to see if there is chipping along the rims. Any damaged glass you can safely put aside and not bother to do research on. It would have to be a really rare piece for it to have any value.

If it were me I would grab a couple of books about Depression glass and sit down and play the match game. Then whatever the book says for a value on each piece I would cut it in half or less to determine a real value. Or you could finish your research online by looking up the piece and seeing sold ones for a more recent market value.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

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News from the local food scene

• **Rocking locavores:** Strolling of the Heifers (strollingoftheheifers.com), a Vermont farm and food business initiative for local food systems and local thinking, makes an annual Locavore Index of states based on data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Census. The 2013 index reported that New Hampshire ranks third nationwide, a huge jump from 2012, when the state placed 13th. Vermont holds first place, followed by Maine. The index is based on information like the number of CSAs, population, farmers markets and other local farming support services.

• **Despite fire, Common Man family sticks together:** An electrical fire caused The Common Man restaurant in Windham to close just before the new year. Erica Murphy, director of communications and community relations for The Common Man, said in a press release, "We are extremely grateful to the Windham Fire Department, police department and fire personnel from seven surrounding towns who responded so quickly during a holiday weekend. ... It has been humbling to receive kind comments from guests leaving messages on our Facebook pages and fellow hospitality owners sending us notes of support and offers of assistance." Employees of the Windham restaurant were able to take shifts at other Common Man locations, and fellow employees at Airport Diner and Common Man restaurants in Concord and Merrimack have offered up their own shifts to help Windham employees while the restaurant remains closed for repairs.

• **Get ready for wine week:** The NH Liquor Commission launched a new website for Wine Week 2014 last week. The new website makes browsing events and wine industry guests user-friendly. See nhwineweek.com, and click on any of the links for "wine industry giants," "exclusive events," and the "Winter Wine Spectacular." Wine Week runs from Monday, Jan. 27, through Sunday, Feb. 2, with tastings, wine dinners, personalities and the Winter Wine Spectacular benefit for Easter Seals.

• **Something's brewing:** This week, BrewNH held a launch event at the new Smuttynose Brewing Company location in Hampton to announce the local brewing initiative. BrewNH is a non-profit marketing cooperative effort of breweries and distributors in the Granite State. It partners with the state's Travel & Tourism and Economic Develop-

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FOOD

Soup up your winter

Natural nutrition at Beaver Brook

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

In between the snowshoeing classes and the guided fitness hikes, nature enthusiasts can fit a different kind of indoor activity this winter at the Beaver Brook Association in Hollis as Rivka Schwartz leads monthly Natural Living Classes on nutrition, herbs and traditional cooking in the Brown Lane Barn at Beaver Brook.

"I think traditionally it wasn't so separate what your herbs and medicines were, and what you were doing outside and what you were doing in your kitchen," she said. "There is an interest. I think people are looking for something besides the modern medicines and those things now."

The classes focus on topics that bring nature into the kitchen, like wild edibles, tonics and winter herbs. This month, Schwartz is leading a class on soup, broth and sauces for good nutrition.

The soups and sauces start with a bone broth base, made from leftover beef or chicken bones. Schwartz will make both beef and chicken broth in advance for guests to taste before making their own broths.

"Once you have that, it's pretty quick to make soup or a sauce and a gravy," Schwartz said. "So we'll explore that, and we'll talk about the health benefits of using bone broth."

Not only do bone broth soup or broth-soup-based sauces taste better, but they're better for your health, too, she said. Bone broth soups help with digestion and help the body take in protein. Schwartz noted that broth cubes (the kind boiled in a pot of water to make broth) are packed with MSG and other food chemicals.

Bone broth bases are traditional in peasant culture cooking, but are integral in other cuisines like French cooking.

Bones can be saved from a chicken or beef



dinner to utilize in soup or sauce bases. Alternatively, you can start with chicken wings or necks. Place the bones in a stock pot, cover in water and bring to a boil (Schwartz added that some people prefer to leave the bones in cold water for an hour prior to boiling). Within 30 to 40 minutes, a layer will form on the top, which can be skimmed off. Then, add vegetables and herbs, like carrots, parsnips, celery, onion and garlic.

"You can just put that on a very low simmer," Schwartz said, or if using a Crock-Pot, keep the setting on "low."

Afterward, strain the broth and store it for three to four days in the fridge. Schwartz said that she also freezes the broth in freezer cups that hold two cups of broth, which can be taken out and added to any desired recipe. Another tip is to freeze the broth in ice cube trays, then pop out the broth cubes to store in a freezer bag.

"I don't add any salt to it, because if you're going to be using it for different things, then you'll be using salt as a different ingredient," Schwartz said.

Schwartz said that usually there's an aver-

age of eight to 14 students in attendance in a diverse age group from participants in their 20s to their 70s.

"I think there's quite a number of young parents who come who want some alternative ... to just have nutritious ways to feed their family ... or in some ways, medications have so many side effects and what are the alternatives," Schwartz said. "Go back to some of those ways of making those things in the kitchen that are wholesome and organic and connecting to nature." 🍄

Natural Living Classes: Herbs, Nutrition and Traditional Cooking

Where: Beaver Brook Association
Brown Lane Barn, 52 Brown Lane,
Hollis

When: From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month (next class on Bone Broth Soups and Sauces on Jan. 22)

Cost: \$15, or \$13 for members; registration required

Visit: beaverbrook.org, or call 465-7787 to register

Getting gluten-free goods to the masses

Nashua-based bakery opens new retail space in 2013

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

Buckwheat's Gluten Free Bakery has been baking gluten-free goods like burger buns, pizza crusts, muffins and loaves of bread for a little over four years in Nashua. Since its establishment, owner Jeff Brockway has been catering to local restaurants and baking for wholesale accounts like A Market in Manchester and Natural Choice

in Hooksett. Now, customers can shop for gluten-free products right at Buckwheat's bakery.

"When I designed this space, I wanted to make sure that we had a place where we could do retail," Brockway said. "There were many points where I wanted to start doing the retail — it's a very different kind of baking from most of our days, so it's almost like a side business."

A little over a year ago, Buckwheat's

moved to Celina Avenue in Nashua. The bakery itself is large to accommodate its wholesale business, but there's enough space in front for a retail side, too. It's tucked away from the main thoroughfare of Amherst Street.

"We used to be on Bridge Street in a shared space in one of the mill buildings over there. And we moved here, and the focus was really on scaling up our wholesale production because we were just



Owner Jeff Brockway likes to offer variety when it comes to fresh gluten-free product. Courtesy photo.

really beyond capacity in the old location,” Brockway said. “A lot of people say, ‘Wow, you’re such a well-kept secret back here,’ and we kind of are.”

The retail outlet is open only on Saturdays so that Brockway and the Buckwheat’s team have time during the week to cater to the wholesale side of the bakery and bake fresh on Fridays for the retail store on the weekend.

“What I’m trying to do with the retail is I’m trying to put some variety back into fresh-baked gluten-free. That’s why we have seven or eight or nine kinds of muffins,” Brockway said. “We have some specialty breads you’ll never find in a store [such as our] herb bread, or we have a roasted garlic bread or an onion dill bread that’s gluten-free.”

The bakery makes a country white sandwich bread (Brockway’s response to other gluten-free sandwich loaves — “I missed real sandwiches,” he said), and dark whole grain bread.

The white bread is made with whole grain sorghum, millet and garbanzo flours and the darker whole grain is similar to a pumpnickel color, made with whole grain buckwheat, sorghum and teff, plus sunflower, sesame and caraway seeds for texture.

There’s also flatbread pizza crust and herbed baguettes in varieties like roasted garlic, onion dill and Tuscan herb. There are even burger rolls, too. Many of these products are most popular with Buckwheat’s restaurant accounts, which includes Stella Blu American Tapas in Nashua and Joe’s American Bar & Grill and A&E Coffee & Tea in Amherst.

“We’ve actually found the restaurants to be one of our biggest parts of our business, because they are looking to add items,” Brockway said. “Bread is a big part of our culture, so to have a decent bread that you can put on the table or a decent bread or roll that you can make a sandwich from, that’s one of the things that they’re looking for, so

Buckwheat’s Gluten Free Bakery

Where: 14 Celina Ave., Unit 15, Nashua

When: Open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit: buckwheatsglutenfree.com

it’s one of the things that we do. ... Especially at the restaurants, I’ve heard from the chefs ... that when I visit there and I talk with the managers and the chef they always recount stories of people that send it back and say, ‘No, this isn’t gluten-free.’”

Brockway’s son was diagnosed with celiac disease about 10 years ago, and shortly after Brockway himself was diagnosed.

“I noticed a big switch in awareness about the middle of last year,” Brockway said. “It was almost a total inversion. I very rarely now have to explain what gluten is. Before a year and a half ago, I had to explain it to every third person that I talked to about it. So that’s a big change.”

Back when Brockway frequented farmers markets, he frequently had customers without gluten-free sensitivities come and try the breads on display. The challenge with gluten-free baking is designing recipes around other grains.

“Our food culture is centered around wheat ... everybody expects with gluten-free is that you can find exactly the same taste and profile and texture — just somehow it’s made with with different stuff,” Brockway said. “People will often ask me, ‘Does it taste the same?’ ... They’re all different breads. Don’t think of this as the exact replacement for those, think of this as, it’s not a rye bread, it’s a millet-sorghum bread.”

With the retail outlet in full swing, Brockway has been making up special treats during the holidays, like pie crusts and gingerbread cookies. He’s already thinking about his next venture: a gluten-free subscription, with pick-up on Saturdays during the outlet’s hours. 🍷

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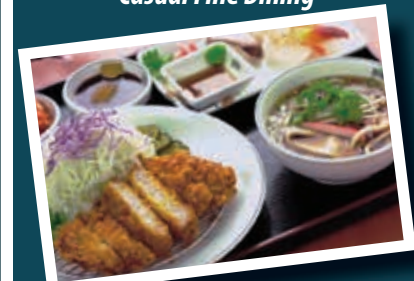
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FOOD

Tap takeover

Shaskeen hosts Science on Tap programs



The Manchester community can get a taste of science at The Shaskeen now, and benefit the SEE Science Center, too. Emelia Attridge photo.

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

Science on Tap

Where: The Shaskeen, 909 Elm St., Manchester
When: Meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. (next Science on Tap meets on Tuesday, Jan. 14)
Cost: Free; 5 percent of proceeds from food and drink benefit the SEE Science Center
Visit: see-sciencecenter.org or visit the Science on Tap Facebook page

In Ireland, the local pub is considered the community living room. That's happening now with an academic twist in the Queen City at The Shaskeen, where the community gathers once a month for Science on Tap. This month, guest lecturer Dr. John Sparrow will be discussing psychobiology and visual perception with community members over a few pints during the monthly program.

"We wanted to be informal and casual. Someplace people will feel comfortable," SEE Science Center design coordinator Adele Maurier said. "It's not a formal lecture. Someplace where people can learn at their own pace and ask questions as they come to them. Certainly our mission at the Science Center is to make science accessible to everyone."

Science on Tap is one of four science cafes in New Hampshire. The others are located in Nashua, Lebanon and Portsmouth.

"Science cafe is a movement that started in Europe and has really grown here in the United States," Maurier said.

Science on Tap features a guest speaker on the second Tuesday of each month at The Shaskeen. It started in November and already has gained a large following.

"It's been pretty good. We've had like just shy of 30, and this one 40 people showed up for [in December], which wasn't bad for six

o'clock," general manager Neal Brown said. "We try to have something going a little different each night of the week. ... It's a little something no one else really seemed to be offering the area."

Community members not only get to share some appetizers and a pint and learn something new, but the programs benefit a good cause, too. Five percent of the proceeds from food and drink at the back bar that evening benefit the SEE Science Center.

"We're off to a great start. We're happy with the involvement of the community so far. We hope that people just continue to come and think of it as their own local science cafe where they can come learn what they like," Maurier said. "We're open to suggestions from our attendees for future ideas, and we hope to have a long run here in Manchester and to keep the dialogue going about science."

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- **TEA SNIFFING CONTEST** Thurs., Jan. 9, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Hooksett Public Library (31 Mount Saint Marys Way, Hooksett). Sniff 10 different teas and match unmarked teas to their names. Instructor Lynda Simmons of Tea For You will lead the program, plus tea and refreshments. Free; call 485-6092 or visit hooksetlibrary.org.
- **FRESH FLAVORS COOKING DEMO** Free demonstration on Saturday, Jan. 11, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Fresh Market (79 S. River Road, Bedford, 626-3420, thefreshmarket.com) features sweet potato, kale and chorizo stew.
- **MACARONI AND CHEESE BAKE OFF** Sat., Jan. 18, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center (70 Constitution Ave., Concord). Admission costs \$10 for adults, \$3 for kids ages 6 to 12, free for kids age 5 and under. Bakers can register 54 ▶

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FOOD



PERISHABLES

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Fresh cocktails

Yes, I know, you've been eating and drinking and being merry much too much to get new cocktail recipes, but let me tell you, these are so worth it. Plus, they're all made with vodka so fit perfectly into your Olympic-themed soiree. Russia is even colder than here this time of year, so vodka must be a necessity. My favorite thing about these cocktails? They are made with fresh ingredients!

Having a "go-to" cocktail at a party makes your event so much more special and fun. Sure, beer and wine are great, but when a host provides a signature cocktail, the party really gets started. Yes, it's a little bit of extra work, but if you make a pitcher (or five pitchers!), it's actually a really easy way to bring a party to the next level.

Fresh ingredients are a must. So many



cocktails are made entirely with stuff you find in the pantry and, while those are easy, they don't tend to be as good. Rum and Coke never wins against the salted caramel cider recipe below. Trust me. A Cape Cod doesn't hold a candle to my Cosmopolitan pitcher with fresh lime juice.

Putting forth the effort to provide a festive cocktail with fresh ingredients shows that you, the host, are dedicated to everyone's enjoyment. It shows you care. It shows that you have good taste!

Without further ado, enjoy these two great cocktails for all your party needs. Feel free to adjust the ratios — make stronger and serve in martini glasses or a little weaker and serve over ice. It's your party! — Allison Willson Dudas

Salted Caramel Cider, serve hot or cold

1 part salted caramel vodka
3 parts cider
Splash of fresh lemon juice
Make a giant pitcher and serve in cinnamon- and sugar-rimmed glasses.

Cosmo Pitcher

1 1/2 parts vodka
1 part Triple Sec
1 1/2 parts freshly squeezed lime juice
2 parts cranberry juice
Make a giant pitcher and serve in glasses with fresh cranberries as garnish.

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Weekly Dish

Continued from page 48

ment divisions as well as industry leaders to spread awareness of the state's local brewing industry. Visit nhbeer.org.

• **Healthy choices:** The annual Eat Well, Be Well series at the Concord Food Co-op continues this year with live cooking demos, educational opportunities and nutritionist programming from Monday, Jan. 13, and into February. The series is comprised of five classes (cost \$35 for the whole series) held in the ballroom at the Holiday Inn in downtown Concord. New to this year's program is "Ask a Nutritionist," where dietitian Traci Komorek will be available at the co-op on select days for the free service. See concordfoodcoop.coop/nutritionist. Wellness classes (like Supplementing Good Health) start in February. Visit concordfoodcoop.coop.

• **Shop local, help the Y:** An indoor farmers market will be held at the Merrimack YMCA on Saturday, Jan. 25, to benefit the YMCA's annual campaign,

which supports the Y Cares Financial Aid program, and provides scholarships to local children and families to access YMCA programming. The market will run from 8 a.m. to noon at the Y, located at 6 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack. Organizers are looking for vendors like local artists, farmers, producers, crafters, restaurants and small businesses to join the market (vendors must have required state permits to participate). Tables cost \$20; email Bri Lafoe at brianalafoe@yahoo.com to register.

• **Kids get cooking:** Children ages 8 to 12 when accompanied by a parent can check out Let's Cook on Thursday nights from 5 to 6:30 p.m. with the Concord Parks and Recreation Department. The parent and child healthy cooking class, led by Brenda Lewis, a certified holistic health counselor, meets Jan. 9 through Jan. 30. Visit concordparksandrec.com or call 225-8690.

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VALENTINE'S DAY PRIX FIXE DINNER & DANCING

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WINTERFEST 2014

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FOOD

FROM THE PANTRY

Ideas from off the shelf

Baked ravioli



With the holidays over, I slowly sink into the winter blues. There isn't much about the winter months that I find redeeming, except being able to curl up by a fire and read a good book. But since that only happens on the occasional Saturday, I'm forced to find ways to perk up during the week after a day at work. I typically turn to the kitchen and baking when I need a quick pick-me-up.

Unfortunately, my husband is not big on sweets. So, to prevent myself from baking and eating everything in its entirety, I try to stick to homemade meals that we will both enjoy. And since after the holidays my motivation for trying new recipes and shopping for exotic ingredients is nil, I've been looking for new twists to try with familiar pantry ingredients.

Over the years, I've discovered that it doesn't take much to spice up a bland dish or put a new twist on traditional favorites. A few unexpected flavors or methods will go a long way in inspiring a new kitchen creation. Sometimes, half the fun of cooking comes from experimenting in the kitchen instead of following a recipe word for word. Frequently, I'll find a recipe that uses unique methods or unfamiliar ingredients

and substitute familiar grocery store finds for the desired flavors.

Recently, I picked up the newest copy of Family Circle magazine. With the monthly meal calendars and week-by-week recipes, the magazine always serves as a treasure trove for new ideas. A recipe for baked ravioli on the cover caught my eye, and I had many of the key ingredients on hand. I decided to try it but with a twist. I substituted spinach ravioli for regular cheese, alfredo sauce for marinara, and sausage for ground beef. Since alfredo sauce is already plenty cheesy, I opted to top the casserole with a bread crumb crust instead of more cheese.

Overall, the dish turned out better than expected. The hot sausage added some punch to the creamy sauce, and the spinach ravioli added a touch of sophistication to a very simple dish. By using the recipe as a guideline, or just to spark an idea, I found a new combination of ingredients that I'll be repeating for dinner sooner than later. —

Lauren Mifsud

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Baked Ravioli

Recipe Courtesy Family Circle

1 pound ground beef

1 jar (24 ounces) marinara sauce

¼ cup fresh basil leaves, chopped

¼ cup fresh parsley

1 (20 ounces) package refrigerated cheese ravioli

1 (9 ounces) package refrigerated cheese ravioli

1 bag (8 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese

2 tablespoons grated Parmesan

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 2-quart baking dish with cooking spray and bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil.

Cook the ground beef (or sausage, turkey or chicken) in a large nonstick skillet on medium-high heat until browned. Remove from heat and stir in 1 cup of the sauce, half the basil and half of the parsley. Meanwhile, cook the ravioli for five minutes in the boiling water. (If using frozen ravioli, cook for 1 minute less than package directions). Drain and return to pot, stirring in the remaining sauce, basil and parsley. Pour half the ravioli into the prepared dish, top with meat sauce and ¾ cup of the mozzarella. Add the remaining ravioli to the dish and top with the remaining mozzarella and the Parmesan. Bake at 350 for 20 minutes. Increase the temperature and broil the ravioli for an additional 2 minutes.

◀ 50 by Tue., Jan. 14. Register by Fri., Jan. 3, and receive free cheese from Cabot. Costs \$10 to register. See nhdairy promo.org.

• **COOK AND SHARE BOOK GROUP** Thurs., Jan. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at Chester Public Library (3 Chester St., Chester, 887-3404, chesterlibrary.com) to share and sample recipes from a selected cookbook. Registration required.

• **WHAT'S COOKIN' BOOK CLUB** Sat., Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstownlibrary.com) to sample recipes from *Barefoot Contessa Foolproof* by Ina Garten. Advanced registration required.

• **POLAR GRILL FEST** Sat., Jan. 25, from noon to 5 p.m. at Redhook Brewery (1 Redhook Way, Portsmouth, 501-3940, polargrillfest.com).

• **CHILI CHOWDER COOKOFF** Sun., Jan. 26, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Amherst Business Center (105 Route 101, Amherst). Visit the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce website at souhegan.net.

Chef events/special meals

• **WINTER WARMTH** Hearthside dinner at the Remick Museum and Farm (58 Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-8382,



LEARN TO COOK TUSCAN

Tuscan Market (67 Main St., Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com) is offering a series of cooking classes this January. The Tuscan Cooking School includes classes like Hands On Risotto on Wednesday, Jan. 15, Hands On Free Form Lasagna on Wednesday, Jan. 22, and Hands On Pizza on Wednesday, Jan. 29. Each class runs from 6 to 9 p.m. at Tuscan Market, and is followed by a multi-course meal prepared by the Trattoria chefs at Tuscan Market featuring the dish highlighted in the class. Each class

costs \$125 per person, which covers instruction, ingredients, dish preparation and meal. Guests who register for all three classes receive a \$50 gift card to Tuscan Kitchen or Tuscan Market. Sign-up at eventbrite.com.

remickmuseum.org) on Sat., Jan. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Cost \$40. Call 323-7591; reservations required.

• **PRESIDENTIAL FEAST** Hearthside dinner at the Remick Museum and Farm (58 Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-8382, remickmuseum.org) on Sat., Feb. 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. Menu includes roasted ham with molasses sauce, trout fritters, corn pudding, fresh churned butter on corn, minted fruit cordial and Woodbury cake with spiced whipped cream. Cost \$40. Call 323-7591 to make a reservation. Reservations required.

• **CHOCOLATE** Dinner on Fri., Feb. 14, and Sat., Feb. 15, at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., Suite 325, Dover, 842-4077, stages-dining.com). Reservations required; visit OpenTable.com.

• **VALENTINE'S DINNER** Sat., Feb. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us). Cost \$125 per person. Call to be added to waitlist.

Church/charity suppers

• **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** Sundays from 8 to 11 a.m. at Philbrick-Clement Post 65 American Legion (12 N. Stark Highway, Weare, 529-2722,

nhpost65.us). A la carte breakfast menu benefits the Legion and community outreach. Cost ranges from \$3.50 to \$7.

• **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Held the third Wednesdays of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford at 20 Elm St. See uucm.org.

• **BREAKFAST BUFFET** Sat., Jan. 11, from 8 to 11 a.m. at Bethany Chapel (54 Newbury Road, Manchester). Costs \$7 for adults, \$4 for children and kids under 6 eat free. Visit bethanychapel.com.

• **EMPTY BOWLS** Wed., Feb. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Nashua High School South (36 Riverside St., Nashua) benefits Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter with over 700 stoneware bowls handmade by students, faculty and community members with soups to choose from. Cost \$15. See nsks.org.

Food classes/workshops

• **EAT WELL, BE WELL** Nutritional series on Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. from Mon., Jan. 13, to Mon., Feb. 10, at the Holiday Inn (172 N. Main St., Concord). Topics include nutrient dense kitchens, stocking a healthy pantry to save time and budgets, foods that boost your mood, antioxidants, antiaging and anticancer

foods and more. The registration fee covers all five classes, food samples and *The Longevity Kitchen* cookbook (cost \$35, or \$30 for co-op members). Reservations required. See concordfoodcoop.coop or call 225-6840.

• **HANDS ON: BAKING CROISSANTS** Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us) instruction with Savory Chef Jeff, Mon., Jan. 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Costs \$65.

• **GET JUICED!** Bedford Community Enrichment juicing class meets for four weeks on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Bedford High School (47 Nashua Road, Bedford) starting Tue., Jan. 14. Tuition costs \$72 with a one-time supply fee of \$25. See sau25.net.

• **COOKING INDIAN CUISINE** Bedford Community Enrichment cooking class meets from 6 to 9 p.m. at Bedford High School (47 Nashua Road, Bedford) on Wed., Jan. 15, Wed., Jan. 29, Wed., Feb. 12, and Wed., March 12. Tuition costs \$39 per class, plus an additional \$10 supply fee per class. Visit sau25.net.

• **HANDS ON RISOTTO** Tuscan cooking class on Wed., Jan. 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Tuscan Market (67 Main St., Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com). Sign-up at tuscanbrands.eventbrite.com. All classes cost \$125

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FOOD

JUST DESSERTS

Recipes for the sweet tooth

Butterscotch



Let's play a quick game of word association. I'll go first. Ready? OK, here it is: butterscotch.

I figure there's a very good chance that the image that popped into your mind is of those yellow-cellophane-wrapped hard candies with the synthetically buttery flavor. Fortunately, there is much more to butterscotch than your grandmother's candy bowl.

A decidedly old-fashioned confection, butterscotch is the sweeter, more buttery cousin of the more common caramel. Caramel is made by heating white sugar until it browns, and then adding cream, and sometimes butter, vanilla, or salt. Butterscotch, however, is generally made with brown sugar and butter; it is heated less, and thus lacks the distinctive semi-burnt flavor of caramel, explained Rina Rapuano on NPR's Kitchen Window blog.

Several food websites trace the treat — and the word — to the town of Don-

caster in England, where it was produced by the Parkinson Co. starting in 1817. It is unclear whether the company is still in operation, but an online search makes it seem unlikely.

Butterscotch takes many forms: goopy sauce for drizzling on ice cream or cakes, whipped with cream and eggs into silky pudding, or solidified into hard candy. It can be mixed with egg whites and gelatin into a chiffon cream pie or used as a glaze for particularly gooey sticky buns.

This recipe keeps it simple, using those pre-made butterscotch chips available next to the chocolate chips in the baking aisle.

A hefty portion of brown sugar in the dough enhances the butterscotch flavor, while salted cashews add crunch and contrast. Enjoy. — Sarah Shemkus

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Butterscotch Cashew Cookies

Recipe from website of Better Homes and Gardens

- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- ¾ cup coarsely chopped salted dry roasted cashews
- ⅔ cup butterscotch-flavor pieces

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a large bowl, beat butter with an electric mixer for 30 seconds. Add sugars, baking powder, baking soda, and salt and beat until combined, scraping side of bowl occasionally. Beat in eggs and vanilla, then as much of the flour as you can with the mixer. Stir in any remaining flour with a wooden spoon, then fold in cashews and butterscotch pieces.

Drop dough by rounded teaspoons 2 inches apart onto an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Transfer to wire rack to cool.

(\$50 gift for participants who register for all three classes).

• **COOKING CONFIDENTIAL** Cooking classes at Colby Hill Inn (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) include an evening with the chef, hands-on cooking instruction, followed by a three-course dinner with wine on select Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Classes cost \$125, and are held on Jan. 20, Feb. 10, March 3, March 31, and April 14. Advanced registration required.

• **COOKING CLUB** Teen cooking group meets on Tuesdays, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and Feb. 18, from 3 to 4:15 p.m. at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140,

derrypl.org).

• **HANDS ON FREE FORM LASAGNA** Tuscan cooking class on Wed., Jan. 22, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Tuscan Market (67 Main St., Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com). Sign-up at tuscanbrands.eventbrite.com. All classes cost \$125 (\$50 gift for participants who register for all three classes).

• **BONE BROTH SOUP** Wed., Jan. 22, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., at Brown Lane Barn (52 Brown Lane, Hollis). Cost \$15, or \$100 for the year to include other programs and materials. Call 465-7787 to register.

• **HANDS ON PIZZA** Tuscan cooking class on Wed., Jan. 29, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Tuscan Market (67 Main St., Salem,

912-5467, tuscanbrands.com). Sign-up at tuscanbrands.eventbrite.com. All classes cost \$125 (\$50 gift for participants who register for all three classes).

• **LEARNING TO TASTE CHOCOLATE** Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us) instruction on Tue., Feb. 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the history and production of cacao and chocolate, plus tasting of five rare chocolates and a Dancing Lion bonbon. Costs \$45; space limited.

• **A MARKET** The Manchester natural foods store's education center offers classes and workshops on health and nutrition. See myamarket.com.

More than just a drink

Using wine in the kitchen

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com

Most of us think about wine only for drinking, but wine can be great for cooking as well. Both red and white wines can add flavor to a variety of recipes, but using the wrong wine can ruin a dish. Here are some tips to help you successfully cook with wine.

Consider wine's components

Wine is complex, containing sugars, acids and tannins, and each of these will play a role in your recipe. Don't just assume any wine will work — you may need to plan ahead if you don't keep a variety of wines on hand.

White wine is usually more acidic than red wine, and some ingredients like lemon juice or vinegar will help cut through the acidity. Unoaked wines, like pinot grigio, are usually best versus a chardonnay, especially if you are cooking with fish or vegetables. However, if you are cooking with onions, carrots and tomatoes, Wine Enthusiast magazine recommends considering the vegetables' natural sugars, so choosing a fuller-bodied, less dry red or crisper white wine is best.

Heartier meats, like venison and beef, are usually paired with red wine recipes because the protein in the meat can stand up to the body of the wine.

Which wine is best?

The general rule is: whatever wine you would drink with the dish, you should use in the dish. If you're picking up a bottle to cook with, pick up a second bottle to enjoy with the dish. Also, keep in mind, if you wouldn't drink it, you probably shouldn't cook with it!

Karen MacNeil of Cooking Light suggests using an American sauvignon blanc if a recipe calls for a dry white wine, because they are typically fresh, with light herbal

notes. This will help enhance the dish. For dishes with bold or spicy flavors, choose a gewurtztraminer, riesling or viognier for their fruity flavors and floral aromas. These will help balance out the spices in the dish.

For dishes calling for a dry red wine, MacNeil says the heartiness of the dish should determine the wine. A beef or lamb dish could use bigger reds like a petite syrah or zinfandel, while a lighter meat dish could use a lighter red like a pinot noir or chianti.

MacNeil says to stay away from most "cooking wines" or other liquids described as cooking wines, as they tend to be made from a base of a cheap, thin wine, though there are exceptions. This goes along with the "don't cook with it if you wouldn't drink it" rule. Instead, she recommends getting to know port, sherry, Madeira and Marsala wines. They are higher quality, contain more flavor and will last longer in the cupboard due to their higher alcohol content. Do not be afraid to cook with them, as the alcohol will cook out.

Here are some Cooking Light guidelines for using these wines. Port is best for meat-based casseroles. Sherry, with its complex, nutty flavor, is best for soups, stews or sautéed dishes. It is also great in chowders. Madeira has toffee and caramel notes and can easily transform mushrooms. Marsala has a light, caramel fruitiness that is used in many Mediterranean dishes and, of course, veal or chicken marsala.

Other ideas

LaBelle Winery in Amherst makes three cooking wines: Heirloom Tomato, Sweet Onion and Jalapeno Pepper, made from locally sourced produce and without extra sodium. These are a great choice for cooking. Amy LaBelle also offers some great recipes on the LaBelle Winery website. Rumor has it she is also working on a tapas cookbook. 🍷

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DRINK

RED, WHITE & GREEN

Bottles for the budget-conscious wine-lover

After a few weeks of splurges and breaking out the good stuff, we returned this week to the search for solid low-cost, everyday wines.

The **2011 Chateau Julien Merlot** from Monterey County (\$14.95 at Angela's Pasta & Cheese Shop in Manchester) is indeed a "Wednesday night wine." A good food wine (though we'd recommend pairing it with food that stops short of spicy, as the spicy pizza we tried it with almost overpowered it), the Chateau Julien is a bit light and drier than you'd expect for a merlot. This brick-red wine had notes of sour cherry and cherry Tootsie Roll on the nose. Those cherry qualities carried through to the taste, which was not as fruity as you sometimes get with a merlot. The wine was a touch fruitier a few days after opening.

The **2010 Nine Stones Shiraz** from Barossa Valley (\$19.99 from the Fresh



Market in Bedford) was more of a universal food partner. A big yet smooth shiraz, this dark red wine had aromas of blackberry and currant. The blackberry carried through to the flavors, which were fruity yet dry and a touch sour.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than \$20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet.

Drink
Beer/wine/liquor tastings

• **TUCKERMAN** tasting on Thurs., Jan. 16, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **OSKAR BLUES** tasting on Thurs., Jan. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **ALLAGASH** tasting on Thurs., Jan. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barb's Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 369-4501, barbsbeeremporium.com.

• **NARRAGANSETT** tasting on Thurs., Jan. 30, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **BROOKLYN** tasting on Thurs., Feb. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **SHIPYARD** tasting on Thurs., Feb. 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **DOGFISH HEAD** tasting on Thurs., March 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barb's Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 369-4501, barbsbeeremporium.com.

Beer/wine dinners

• **GAME DINNER** with White Birch Brewing on Wed., Jan. 22, at 6:30 p.m. at Cask & Vine (1½ E. Broadway, Derry, 965-3454, caskandvine.com). Reservations required.

• **STEELE WINES** with Bill

Bishop at Epoch Restaurant and Bar at The Exeter Inn (2 Pine St., Exeter, 778-3762, epochrestaurant.com). Includes a four-course wine dinner, bottle signing and cocktail hour from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$60. Visit nhwineweek.com.

• **PERRIER JOUET WINE DINNER** Wed., Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m. at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com). Cost \$95 per person (plus tax and gratuity).

• **CATCH WINE DINNER** Thurs., Feb. 27, at Granite Restaurant and Bar at The Centennial Hotel (96 Pleasant St., Concord, 227-9000, graniterestaurant.com). Five-course dinner with wine pairings to benefit CATCH Neighborhood housing. Tickets cost \$65.

Beer/wine festivals and special events

• **PINT NITE** Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at The Holy Grail Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559, holygrailrestaurantandpub.com), featuring Sierra Nevada Celebration (Jan. 9), Shipyard Prelude (Jan. 16), Founders Porter (Jan. 23) and Sam Adams Cold Snap (Jan. 30).

• **WINTER WINE FESTIVAL** Sat., Jan. 18, through Sun., Feb. 16, at Wentworth by the Sea (588 Wentworth Road, New Castle, 422-7322, winterwinefestival.com), with wine dinners, Sunday brunches, flights and other special events throughout the festival. See winterwinefestival.com for a full schedule of

events.

• **9TH ANNUAL NH WINE WEEK** runs from Mon., Jan. 27, through Sun., Feb. 2, with the Winter Wine Spectacular on Thurs., Jan. 30, in-store wine tastings at NH Liquor and Wine Outlet locations, educational seminars, bottle signings, wine dinners and more. Visit nhwineweek.com for a full schedule of events.

• **CELLAR NOTES: MANCHESTER** Wed., Jan. 29, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Puritan Conference & Event Center (245 Hooksett Road, Manchester) seminar-style wine tasting with four leading wine experts, including President and Co-Founder of Folio Wines (Spellbound), co-owner of Klinker Brick Wines, Ravenswood winemaker Joel Peterson and the owner of HandCraft Artisan Collection Wines. Tickets cost \$35; limited seating. Call 1-888-368-8880.

• **CELLAR NOTES: SEACOAST** Wed., Jan. 29, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Portsmouth Harbor Events & Conference Center (100 Deer St., Portsmouth) seminar-style wine tasting with four leading wine experts, including Janice Mondavi, Co-Proprietor of Charles Krug Winery, Joseph Carr, owner of Joseph Carr Wines, Michael Phillips, Co-Owner and CEO of Michael David Winery and Melissa Stackhouse, Vice President and Winemaker of J Vineyards & Winery. Tickets cost \$35; limited seating. Call 1-888-368-8880.

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good for your brains *Green Tea*

A study suggests that caffeine may temporarily boost mental alertness.

Quick Tip: At your next tea time, add fresh peppermint for an extra mental boost. Some researchers believe that the smell acts as a stimulant which has been linked with an increase of alertness and memory functioning.

good for your belly *Hard Cheese*

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Quick Tip: Cheese goes with everything! Kids may be more inclined to eat their veggies if they're topped with delicious, melted cheddar cheese.

good for your joints *Olive Oil*

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Quick Tip: To cut down on saturated fat, drizzle olive oil over your bread or toss rice or pasta with olive oil to prevent stickiness in place of butter.



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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennott@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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POP CULTURE

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Casket Girls, *True Love Kills The Fairy Tale* (Graveface Records)



Second LP of gothic dream-sludge from the novelty act fronted by two sisters from Savannah, Ga., who come complete with PR-spewed nonsense-legends of themselves being discovered singing bizarre things over an autoharp in the park. Boombox-caliber drums and the muddiest of guitars mumble and churn beneath the girls' Bananarama voices, leaving the impression of a bug-eyed goth Au Revoir Simone whose producer fell asleep at the mixing board after accidentally pegging the glitch levels, thus voila, it's nowave-ish in its way, offering its slovenly self to a Lorde-hijacked music scene starved for more anti-bling while simultaneously catering to dream-pop fanatics, who won't be able to resist these hooky little things, particularly the Nintendo-dotted title track. It'd be perfect if not for the interchangeable pace of the songs, all of which have the metronome set to "I overslept but don't quite care." A- — Eric W. Saeger

Zara McFarlane, *If You Knew Her* (Brownswood Recordings)



Bold overtures color the second album from this occasionally fascinating Briton, who released her debut LP *Until Tomorrow* in 2011. This is all jazz-centric as the crow flies, but not all of it is by-the-book, especially when she makes weird bird noises in the otherwise dinner-jazz "Ay Ay Ay Ay" and explores her deepest African roots in intro track "Open Heart," which she colors in quiet, sleepy Roberta Flack chill tones until the steel-drum-emulated melodies chime in, at which point she demonstrates that she takes her spirituality a lot more seriously than she does jazz wonking. It's a refreshing thing to hear, especially with the never-ending glut of po-faced Ella wannabes drily reciting Gershwin as if there's an exam tomorrow. But you know all that, I'm sure, and meanwhile, no, she doesn't stomp tradition into the ground (there's a cover of Kitty White's "Plain Gold Ring" nestled within all the original stuff). A- — Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future album releases

- Wealthy working human **Bruce Springsteen** releases his 18th studio LP next week, for the benefit of all you gas station attendants who make a million dollars a year. This new album, *High Hopes*, is his first album comprised only of remakes and weird B-sides, such as the title track, which first appeared on the *Blood Brothers* EP. This song is actually sort of okay, and the turtle-faced dude from *The Sopranos* uses a pretty neat noise-guitar technique to keep you from falling asleep during the usual bayou pandering angle. Are there bayous in Hoboken? Does anyone have the courage to go find out in person?

- On Tuesday, San Diego fedora-hat/surfer-indie band **Switchfoot** release *Fading West*, but this is the actual full-length album, not the *Fading West* EP, so be careful when you use the download button, all five Switchfoot fans! "When We Come Alive" is one tune from this full-length not-the-EP, combining some of the more annoying sounds of Arcade Fire and Coldplay in one milquetoast-rock package, for your surfing and fedora-hat pleasure.

- British boyband annoyance **The Vamps** are your next One Direction. No one seems to be 100 percent sure yet at this writing, but the title of their upcoming new album (streeting next week) appears to be *Wild Heart*. I know for sure that one of the songs on this bubble-pop monstrosity will be titled "Wild Heart," because I'm looking at the video right now. This infinitely lame mini-film shows our heroes stealing Cokes from an old guy's convenience store, located in some British desert, if there is such a thing. Then a hot 25-year-old in a red mini shows up and gets on The Vamps' beat-up bus, and it's then that you realize it has to be their babysitter. Wrong on so many levels? Sure, why not, if you say so.

- Next week will also see the re-release of about 92 billion old-school jazz albums that are all way cool. A quick rundown: *Solo Monk* by **Thelonious Monk**; a ton of stuff from **John Coltrane** that includes *Seven Classic Albums, Vol. 3*; flutist **Hubert Laws** hawking such LPs as *Chicago Theme* and *Crying Song*; and **Ella Fitzgerald** with *The Ella Fitzgerald Collection, Vol. 2: 1936-55*. The cool thing about getting hip to old jazz albums is that they don't suck, which will take your ears some getting used to, but do try and stick with it.

— Eric W. Saeger

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Useful, with humor

Old Farmer's Almanac editor shares 2014 insight

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

According to *The Old Farmer's Almanac* editors, this winter is going to be a tough one.

"The winter, in the northeast, is supposed to be a little colder than normal with a slightly above-normal snowfall," said Sarah Perreault, associate editor of *The Old Farmer's Almanac* in a phone interview just after the Jan. 2 snowstorm.

The spring, she said, looks as though it will be a little cooler than normal with an average amount of rainfall; the summer will be hot with a below-normal amount of rainfall; and the fall, she said, will be warm with a slightly above-normal amount of rain.

If the first week of the new year is any indication, they're right on track.

This is the information the editors of the oldest continuously-published periodical gathered using the same formula that publication founder Robert B. Thomas used in 1792. This original formula, in fact, is tucked away in a metal box in the Dublin offices. Six editorial staff members and 14 editorial contributors had a hand in the 2014 edition. They claim an 80 percent accuracy rate, but with today's technology, it's been even higher.

"We look at solar cycles, meteorology and climatology," Perreault said. "We have so much more available information that we had in 1792, and so, our accuracy has improved. ... Last year, our accuracy rate was at 94 percent, much higher than our average, and we're pretty excited about that."

If you want the nitty gritty details of the numbers and this configuration process, you can ask Perreault and the *Almanac's* calendar editor, Heidi Stonehill, at a Manchester Barnes & Noble meet-and-greet event on Saturday, Jan. 11.

The book, said Barnes & Noble Community Relations Manager Nathan Robbins, is one of the store's top sellers, famous and true to its claim of being "useful, with a pleasant degree of humor." It's full of not just weather predictions, but

also trend predictions, tide tables, planting charts, astronomical data, recipes and articles on topics like gardening, sports, astronomy and farming.

(Scattered among the pages are some fun statistics, too; according to the *Almanac*, for example, pet owners spend about 90 minutes each week cleaning up after their animals. Every year, dog owners specifically will spend an average of \$43 on dog toys.)

"*The Old Farmer's Almanac* is something that evokes nostalgia. It's the book you saw in your grandparents' house, or your house growing up. It's a constant that people rely on every year. ... And it has a quirky charm. ... Usually, everyone is interested in at least one part of the book," Perreault said.

Some of the book's readers are so loyal, so trusting of the *Almanac* that they'll often call the editors in the Dublin office they share with Yankee Magazine to decide when to plant their crops, or just as important, what weekend to get married.

"It's nice to hear from people who love our book," Perreault said. "Though they never call back to say whether we're right or wrong!"

The book has changed quite a bit since the original volume in 1792, she said; then, it was basically a small weather calendar full of agricultural information. At the time of its publication, there were many other competing almanacs, and so it didn't get the "old" added to its name until 1832.

"We've added a whole lot more information, but we try to keep it true to the core. ... When Robb Sagendorph, the editor of Yankee magazine at the time, bought the almanac in 1939, he brought it back to a more similar version that the founder created. Over the years, people have tried to do their own thing — one year the weather forecast was taken out, which was the only year the almanac didn't do well," Perreault said.

It's a great time for *Almanac* enthusiasts. In 2013, the publishers launched *The Old Farmer's Almanac Monthly*, which you can order online. There's also a children's version called *The Old Farmer's Almanac For Kids*, which is published every other year.

"It's so much fun. It's in full color with no advertising. It's geared towards kids, with gardening, astronomy and interesting experiments, recipes. ... It's also full of so many interesting facts and tidbits that I didn't know until I started working on it. Even adults love it," Perreault said. 🍷

Meet the editors

Where: Barnes & Noble, 1741 S. Willow St., Manchester

When: Saturday, Jan. 11, at 2 p.m.

For more information: All of the information that couldn't fit into the book is at almanac.com, though kids may prefer *The Almanac For Kids* website, almanac4kids.com.

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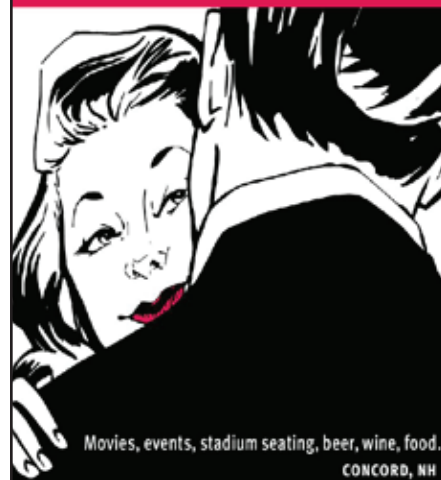
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TOP 10 Photography books

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by: Brandon Stanton
Hardcover, October 2013
- 2 **The Civil War in Color: A Photographic Reenactment of the War Between the States**
By John C Guntzelman
Hardcover, November 2012
- 3 **LIFE: The Classic Collection**
By the Editors of LIFE
Hardcover, October 2008
- 4 **Genesis**
By Sebastiao Salgado (Photographer),
Lelia Wanick Salgado
Hardcover, June 2013
- 5 **The Great War: A Photographic Narrative**
By Mark Holborn, Hilary Roberts
Hardcover, October 2013
- 6 **LIFE The Day Kennedy Died: Fifty Years Later: LIFE Remembers the Man and the Moment**
By the Editors of LIFE
Hardcover, October 2013
- 7 **Much Loved**
By Mark Nixon
Hardcover, October 2013
- 8 **The Unforgettable Photograph: 228 Ideas, Tips, and Secrets for Taking the Best Pictures of Your Life**
By George Lange (Artist), Scott Mowbray
Paperback, September 2013
- 9 **Before They Pass Away**
By Jimmy Nelson (Photographer)
Hardcover, October 2013
- 10 **I Wrote This for You**
By pleasefindthis, Jon Ellis (Photographer)
Paperback, December 2011

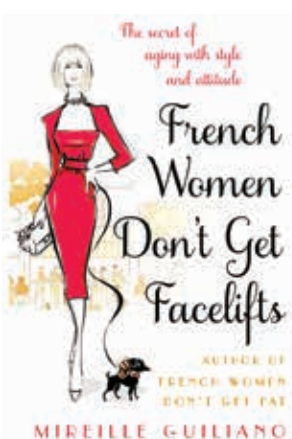


French Women Don't Get Facelifts, by Mireille Guiliano (Grand Central Publishing, 248 pages)

French women don't get facelifts, nor, apparently, can they write engaging prose. But enough with the false generalities, for Mireille Guiliano has filled a book with them, promising to give American women "the secret of aging with style and attitude" but instead regurgitating tired platitudes and over-the-counter beauty advice. If you're a woman of drinking age, there's nothing in *French Women Don't Get Facelifts* that you haven't already read while thumbing through magazines in your doctor's waiting room.

Pity, for Guiliano's *French Women Don't Get Fat* was well received in 2007 and seemed the birth of a promising brand. A brand yes — this is the fourth book to follow — but it's what happens when a kernel of a good idea is popped until there's nothing left but air.

French Women Don't Get Fat put forth the idea that if you stop eating junk (and yes, Lean Cuisine is junk) and eat fresh food exquisitely prepared — oh, and walk a lot — you will lose weight. This is sound advice that doesn't really belong to the French, but Guiliano, born in France and married to an American, buys into the Eurocentric view that American women are all aquiver over



anything Parisian. Forget that France is America's oldest enemy, as John J. Miller and Mark Molesky reminded us in a book of that title, also released in 2007. Or that French men are said to have the morals of alley cats, which makes one wonder what all that skinniness actually achieves.

But OK. Catherine Deneuve is indeed quite attractive, as is Guiliano herself. What can they,

and women like them, teach us that our own aging American goddesses can't?

To get there, you first have to forgive and forget the deceit in the title. Guiliano, before becoming a full-time brand nurturer, was an executive for a Champagne company and she is married to a university president. She could well afford a face lift, or three or four, if she wanted one, but she prefers natural remedies to aging, like eating spinach. "Food lifts," she calls them ... the quasi-magical effects of eating her favorite anti-aging dishes: spinach, oysters, avocados and bananas. (Yes, recipes are included.)

If, by chance, your own personal genetic code and the ravages of time do not respond well to bananas, what's left? Well, there's Botox, of course, which Guiliano admits works, although she herself has not submitted to the needle. "But you never know," she says.

Also, as to facelifts, she concedes that they may be necessary if your looks mat-

ter in your line of work. And then ... "Sorry to be a bit of a tease, but this book isn't about actual facelifts — or about not having them," she says. "It's about facelifts in the sense of aging with attitude and the decisions one makes through the decades." Clear as a mud mask, yes?

So, after the promissory note of a title has been voided before the fourth chapter begins, what's left? Well, enlightening advice like this:

"Do you have a great hairstylist? If not, why not? Do you have a great haircut? If not, time to get one."

If you can't wait to read more, here you go:

"I stand by everything I've always said and the French have always espoused: everything in moderation."

"Remember, less is more as one ages, and nail care needs to coordinate with hair care and makeup."

"So let us be clear: walking at least twenty minutes a day is the very best nonexercise exercise you can do for your health and fitness."

Guiliano seems like a lovely woman, and doubtless is sincere in her efforts to help all us fat, slovenly American women, but all she provides here is a sleeping aid. Twenty years ago, an American woman wrote a great manual to aging well with style and attitude. It's *The Late Show: A Semiwild but Practical Survival Plan for Women over 50* by the late Helen Gurley Brown, founder of Cosmopolitan magazine. One chapter of it trumps this entire book, both in useful advice and readability.

F — Jennifer Graham

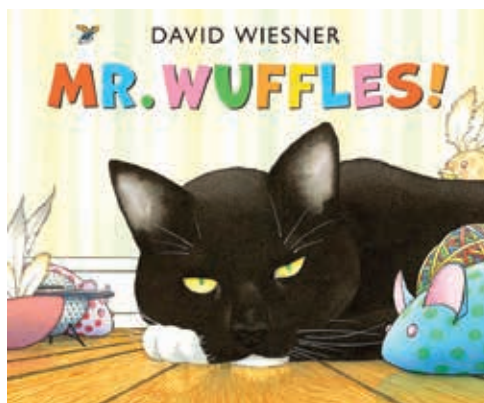
CHILDREN'S ROOM

A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library

Mr. Wuffles!

By David Wiesner ©2013
(Picture book, ages 4-8)

What if a miniature spaceship of tiny aliens landed in your house, and the only one to notice was your cat? See how said cat, Mr. Wuffles, deals with his close encounter in this delightful, almost-wordless, picture book.



OUT NEXT WEEK

Duty: Memoirs of a Secretary at War

By Robert M. Gates



Hits shelves: Jan. 14

Author best known for: Serving as secretary of defense from 2006 to 2011

One-sentence review: No advance reviews, as apparently this is a top-secret book

FROM THE
BOOKSHELF

City of Bones by Cassandra Clare (2008, Margaret K. McElderry Books)
I first came across this series when I was studying abroad in Ireland. I'd popped into a few bookshops and seen the covers of the series on display. I always liked *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, and I had been looking for a quick read while abroad, so I figured this series might do the trick.

In *City of Bones*, 15-year-old Clary Fray discovers that monsters are not just myth when she meets Jace Wayland and other Shadowhunters, a secret group destined to hunt demons and monitor Downworlders (like vampires, werewolves and warlocks). After her mother has been kidnapped by Shadowhunter-gone-rogue Valentine, Clary must rescue her mother while discovering how her world intersects with the world of monsters and demons.

I loved reading *City of Bones*, and although I found myself quickly soaking in all 485 pages, some readers find the book difficult to get into. Even though this series shares elements of other popular YA serials (a heroine stuck in a supernatural world,



Buffy) and as a reader, I became attached to the characters.

However, I quickly developed a love-hate relationship with this series. After reading the conclusion of this book, I wanted nothing to do with the rest of the series (you'll see what I mean when you get there). There are a lot of clichés, a lot of awful YA trashy romance (think *Twilight* et al.) and many times, the writing isn't very good. Despite all this, I would still recommend the series to others (ahem, *Buffy* fans). I recently just finished the fourth installment, and although it has been torture to read some of these books, the good chunks, the crazy plot twists and the characters have kept me reading and wanting more.

— Emelia Attridge

torn between multiple love interests, is one narrative I'm finding to get a little old, but I guess that is *Buffy*, too), I still really enjoyed getting wrapped up in these books. There's a lot of really entertaining banter (again, like

Book Report



• **Call for submissions:** Got any stories about the Concord Coach? Rick Broussard, founder of the New Hampshire Pulp Fiction series, and Elaine Isaak, author and editor of *Volume IV: Love Free or Die*, are looking for story submissions between 1,000 and 8,000 words about the Concord Coach for the series' upcoming volume. These stories can be mystery, science fiction, fantasy, romance or horror, but the Concord Coach must be integral to the story in some fashion. Submissions must include the writer's name, address, phone number and email on the first page and must follow standard manuscript format (double-spaced, page numbers, Times New Roman, 12-point font preferred). Payment will be \$50 on publication and two copies of the book. The deadline is Feb. 1, and rejections/acceptances will be sent by April 1. Email livefreordiefiction@gmail.com.

• **Cozy mysteries and scary anthologies:** RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, is hosting cozy mystery authors Jessie Crockett, Edith Maxwell and Liz Mugavero to read from and discuss their new books on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m. (A cozy mystery is one with little or no gore.) Then, on Monday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m., the store hosts five award-winning authors, Holly Black, Christopher Golden, Nate Kenyon, Holly Newstein and Rio Youers, who will all read from *Dark Duets: All-New Tales of Horror and Dark Fantasy*, an anthology with "biting and atmospheric" original stories. The tales were written by 17 pairs of acclaimed writers, all of whom collaborated together for the first time for the book, according to the press release. Call 431-2100, visit riverrunbookstore.com.

• **Time for a book sale:** The Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) holds a \$10-a-bag (grocery or canvas) book sale on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call Eileen at 624-6550, ext. 319. That same day, the Merrimack Public Library (470 D.W. Hiway, Merrimack) hosts its Mid-winter Book Sale, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., which will house a large assortment of fiction, nonfiction, teen and children's books, with prices that range from \$.25 to \$1 per book. The sale continues on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 1 to 3 p.m., with prices that range from \$2 to \$5 per bag. Call 424-5021.

— Kelly Sennott

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The New England Life of Cartoonist
Bob Montana: Beyond the Archie Comic Strip
Thursday, January 9th, 2014 • 7 p.m.

Bob Montana, creator of the Archie comic strip and one of America's greatest cartoonists, always considered himself a true New Englander. Montana's comic strip was based on his high school years in Haverhill, Massachusetts. At the height of his career, he lived in the quaint, picturesque town of Meredith in the heart of the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. Join Lakes Region historian Carol Lee Anderson as she tells the story of the remarkable life of Bob Montana.

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Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (R)

A parallel story to the saga of the demon-possessed Kristi and Katie features the same general tone and shaky cam but different characters (for the most part) in the “Latino spin-off” to the *Paranormal Activity* movies.

What “Latino spin-off” means beats me, but mainstream American movies that feature Latino culture are still rare enough that I’ll take it.

Jesse (Andrew Jacobs) and Hector (Jorge Diaz) are two older teens who enjoy messing around with a video camera, pulling pranks such as the one that has Hector drawing a penis on a sleeping Jesse’s face and then filming him until he figures out that it’s there. Thusly, when they hear strange noises from the apartment below one night — the apartment where reputed bruja (witch) Anna (Gloria Sandoval) lives — they try to film whatever’s going on by snaking a camera through the duct work. What they catch is something odd, possibly part of some witchy business. Later, the boys are shooting off firecrackers outside when someone jumps from the roof and rushes past them. The someone is Oscar (Carlos Pratts), a friend from school, and he appears to have jumped from Anna’s apartment. When the police later find Anna dead, the boys are creeped out both because the murder happened right under where Jesse sleeps and because Oscar is the younger brother of a local gangster and they now have the footage that can implicate him in a crime.

But these more earthly concerns turn out to be the least of their worries, particularly for Jesse. After finding an odd bite on his arm and a strange thing in his eye, he finds himself changing in other ways. He appears to have a kind of super strength, but something spooky is seems to be following him.

The Marked Ones is a not-terrible, middle of the road addition to the *Paranormal Activity* brand. In some ways, this is still remarkable — it holds together much better than, say, the *Saws* that reached this number of sequels (technically, it’s the fifth *Paranormal Activity* movie although a movie actually called *Paranormal Activity 5* is scheduled for release later this year). On the other hand,



Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones

horror films — at least mainstream horror films — have been getting better. Look at the horror films that made it to the top 50 grossers of 2013: *The Conjuring* (18), *Insidious Chapter 2* (41), *Mama* (47) and even *The Purge* (just over at 55). (I’m not counting zombie movies *World War Z* and *Warm Bodies* here because the latter was really more of a dystopic romance and the former was a hot mess.) I didn’t particularly love all of these but they all had more going on than just slashing and big whomping scores. “Not bad” may have pushed a horror flick to the top of the pack back in 2007 when the first *Paranormal Activity* came out, but *The Marked Ones* exists in a universe of fewer college girls in their underwear traipsing around the basements of dark cabins and more creepiness in the everyday, more plot, more women fighting back and more humor. *The Marked Ones* feels like a fairly lesser version of these new, more interesting horror films.

Still, though the movie has that “skating by” quality, I still found myself more engaged than not, more interested in the characters than not and impressed enough by the circle-back to previous movies that I didn’t leave feeling like I’d been robbed of 84 minutes. **C+**

Rated R for pervasive language, some violence, graphic nudity and some drug use. Written and directed by Christopher Landon, Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones is an hour and 24 minutes long and distributed by Paramount Pictures.

Grudge Match (PG-13)
Sylvester Stallone and Robert De Niro wring another payday out of old photos of them in boxing gear with Grudge Match, an objectively terrible but kind of awesome old-dude comedy.

When they start making nostalgia-based movies aimed directly at you, kids, that’s when you know you’ve tipped over into “old-ie” land.

Once upon a time, Henry “Razor” Sharp (Stallone) and Billy “The Kid” McDonnen (De Niro) had a white-hot rivalry in the ring. They had two major fights against each other, with one win going to Razor and one to Billy. They were scheduled to meet for a third when Razor abruptly dropped out of fighting and went to work at a factory making, I don’t know, singles of Billy Joel’s “Allentown” or something. Billy traded on his success and opened a restaurant and a car dealership. The fighters never saw each other again.

Nowadays, Razor is dealing with impending layoffs at the factory and Billy is still sleazing it up like a man half his age. Then along comes Dante Slate Jr. (Kevin Hart), son of the man who once promoted their fights. He wants to stage a rematch — an event that could earn Razor a fast \$15,000 and get Billy the satisfaction of breaking the decades-old tie. Razor wouldn’t consider it except that he needs the cash to find a new retirement home

for his old coach, Louis “Lightning” Conlon (Alan Arkin). He reluctantly agrees and soon finds himself trading jabs both physical and verbal with Billy.

What is the source of their long animosity? A girl, of course. Sally (Kim Basinger) was Razor’s girlfriend but Billy is the one who got her pregnant with a son named B.J. (Jon Bernthal). Razor and Sally broke up roughly the same time Razor dropped out of the boxing world. Now that Razor and Billy are in the news again, Sally tells B.J. about his biological father and, even though Billy is a constant source of jerkishness, B.J. decides to forge some kind of relationship with him and even helps him prepare for the bout with Razor.

The description of the movie here does not accurately capture the level of ridiculousness, self-conscious ridiculousness for the most part, on which this movie operates. We get standard boxing-movie tropes like training montages, pre-fight scuffles between the boxers, all the nonsense with Sally and even a “the fight’s off — but wait” moment. But all is played for extra weirdness — Stallone’s inability to, say, recite a line of dialogue with any conviction or, at times, normal speech rhythms is highlighted, not hidden. De Niro’s character takes the “motivation is for losers; did my check clear?” quality some of the comedy-De Niro performances can have and turns it into an aria of lazy acting. Alan Arkin Alan Arkins it up at full volume, taking every grumpy old man he has ever played, lumping them together and giving them an extra dose of curmudgeonline. During the movie’s opening exposition, halfheartedly delivered as a “where are they now” sports feature, the footage of young Razor and Billy fighting — “enhanced” by CGI floaty-face images of younger De Niro and Stallone — is laugh-out-loud hilarious.

Grudge Match steers hard into the skid of De Niro’s and Stallone’s tendency toward charming badness in these later years of their career and the result is something that is just too much fun to grade on the basis of its questionable quality alone. **B-**

Rated PG-13 for sports action violence, sexual content and language. Directed by Peter Segal with a screenplay by Tim Kelleher and Rodney Rothman, Grudge Match is distributed by Warner Bros. and is an hour and 53 minutes long.

REVIEWlets Bite-sized reviews and previews of recent and future films

* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go tohippopress.com

Opening Jan. 10: The Legend of Hercules (PG-13) stars Kellan Lutz (best known as Emmett from the Twilight franchise); August: Osage County (R) from director John Wells stars acting heavyweights Meryl Streep, Margo Martindale, Julia Roberts,

Sam Shepard and The Cumberbatch; Her (R) from Spike Jonze stars Joaquin Phoenix and the voice of Scarlett Johansson; Lone Survivor (R) Mark Wahlberg and Taylor Kitsch star in this tale based on a true story from the war in Afghanistan. Jan. 17: Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG-13) Chris Pine helps reboot yet another series in this Kenneth Branagh direct-

ed movie; Ride Along (PG-13), a comedy starring Ice Cube and Kevin Hart; Devil’s Due (R) is a horror movie about a particularly difficult pregnancy; The Nut Job (PG) features cartoon squirrels and voice work by Will Arnett and Katherine Heigl.

In theaters: *American Hustle (R) Amy Adams, Jennifer Lawrence.

David O Russell’s latest also stars Christian Bale, Bradley Cooper and Jeremy Renner in a tale of con-men and con-women in the late ‘70s and early ‘80s. A

*Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (R) Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate. Stay classy, sequel. B+

Frozen (PG) Kristen Bell, Josh Gad. Disney gets two princesses in one movie in this nothing-special but nothing-terribly-wrong retelling of “The Snow Queen,” which also features the voice of Idina Menzel. B-

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman. Part two of the needless trilogy

based on the short J.R.R. Tolkien book does at least feature Benedict Cumberbatch giving a motion capture performance as a dragon. C+

*Philomena (PG-13) Judi Dench, Steve Coogan. Sweet, funny and heart-breaking, Philomena tells the true story of a woman who searches for the son she lost nearly 50 years earlier. A

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MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, redrivertheatres.org, 224-4600

• **Nebraska** (R, 2013) on Thurs., Jan. 9, at 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 10, at 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 11, at 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 12, at 1, 3:30 & 6 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 13, at 2, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 14, at 2, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 15, at 2 p.m.; & Thurs., Jan. 16, at 2 p.m.

• **Philomena** (PG-13, 2013) on Thurs., Jan. 9, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 10, at 1:20, 3:40, 6:10 & 8:20 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 11, at 1:20, 3:40, 6:10 & 8:20 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 12, at 1:20, 3:40 & 6:10 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 13, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 14, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 15, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; & Thurs., Jan. 16, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.

• **Is the Man Who is Tall Happy?** (NR, 2013) on Thurs., Jan. 9, at 5 p.m.

• **A Touch of Sin** (NR, 2013) on Fri., Jan. 10, at 1:30 & 6:15 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 11, at 1:30 & 6:15 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 12, at 1:30 & 6:15 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 13, at 2:10 & 6:15 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 14, at 2:10 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 15, at 2:10 & 6:15 p.m.; & Thurs., Jan. 16, at 2:10 & 6:15 p.m.

• **Private Detective** (NR, 1933) on Sun., Jan. 12, at 4 p.m.

• **Las Marthas** (NR, 2014) on Tues., Jan. 14, at 6:30 p.m.

• **Out on a Limb** (NR, 2013) on Wed., Jan. 15, at 7 p.m.

• **Sherlock: Season 3 Premiere** (NR, 2014) on Thurs., Jan. 16, at 6 p.m.

CINEMAGIC & IMAX

1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett
• **Labor Day** on Mon., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. Free only for AARP members. Visit aarp.org/nh, [facebook.com/aarphn](https://www.facebook.com/aarphn).

WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St. in Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

• **Nebraska** (R, 2013) Fri., Jan. 10, through Thurs., Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening on Sun., Jan. 12, at 2 p.m.

• **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13, 2013) Fri., Jan. 10, through Thurs., Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screenings on Sun., Jan. 12, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.

• **The Counterfeit Traitor** (1962)

on Sat., Jan. 11, at 4:30 p.m.

• **Fresh** on Sun., Jan. 12, at 4:30 p.m. Presented by Souhegan Transition Network, souhegan-transition.org.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
• **After Earth** (PG-13, 2013) on Wed., Jan. 8, at 1 p.m.
• **Little Shop of Horrors** (PG-13, 1986) on Wed., Jan. 15, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Despicable Me 2** (PG, 2013) on Fri., Jan. 10, at 3 p.m.
• **Lee Daniels' The Butler** (PG-13, 2013) on Fri., Jan. 17, at 3 p.m.

BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-3023, bedfordonline.com, free movie at 2 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month, presented through Parks & Recreation
• **Harry and Tonto** (R, 1974) on Sun., Jan. 19, at 2 p.m.

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, onconcord.com/library
• **The Sting** (PG, 1973) on Thurs., Jan. 16, at 6:30 p.m.

CHUNKY'S CINEMA

151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, 880-8055
• **Local Movie Month** showing *Good Will Hunting* (R, 1997) on Thurs., Jan. 9, at 7:30 p.m.; *Mystic River* (R, 2003) is on Thurs., Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m.; *The Perfect Storm* (PG-13, 2000) is on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m.; and *What About Bob?* (PG, 1991) is on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for a movie schedule. Seating is limited. Food and drink are not permitted. Cinema Cabaret screens adult films on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and the family film series screens on Saturdays at 2 p.m. The

two series run from October to May.

• **Despicable Me 2** (PG, 2013) on Sat., Jan. 11, at 2 p.m.
• **Enchanted** (PG, 2007) on Sat., Jan. 18, at 2 p.m.

MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Rogers Center for the Arts, 315 N. Turnpike St., N. Andover, MA
• **Birth of a Nation** (1915) on Wed., Jan. 22, 7 p.m. Silent film, free admission, musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis.

RODGERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

194 Derry Road, Route 102, Hudson, rodgerslibrary.org, 886-6030
• **80's Movie Marathon** on Thurs., Jan. 9, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
• **Teen Movie Night** on Mon., Jan. 27, at 6 p.m.

WAYSMEET CENTER

15 Mill Road, Durham, amyla44@juno.com
• **Growthbusters: Hooked on Growth** on Sun., Jan. 12, 5-8 p.m. Free. Followed by potluck dinner.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org. Some films are screened at Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St.
• **Blue Jasmine** (PG-13, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 9, at 7 p.m.
• **The Armstrong Lie** (R, 2013) on Fri., Jan. 10, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 11, at 3 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.; & Tues., Jan. 14, at 7 p.m.
• **Northern Trespass** (documentary) on Sat., Jan. 11, at 4 & 7 p.m.
• **Woody Allen's Hannah and Her Sisters** (1986) on Sun., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m., and Tues., Jan. 28, at 7 p.m.

NEWBURYPORT SCREENING ROOM

82 State St., Newburyport, Mass., 978-462-3456, newburyportmovies.com
• **The Great Beauty** (NR, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 9, at 7:30 p.m.

THE FLYING MONKEY

39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
• **The Hunchback of Notre Dame** (1923) Thurs., Jan. 23, at 6:30 p.m., silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis.

HELP WANTED

Red River Theatres, New Hampshire's premiere nonprofit art-house cinema located in Downtown Concord is looking to add members to its team.

Do you enjoy going to the cinema? Does the smell of fresh popcorn make you feel all warm and fuzzy inside? Is Premiere Friday your favorite day of the week? Do you wish you could spend every single day surrounded by movie stars, ticket stubs and happy customers?

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Red River Theatres has the following openings:

House Manager—The right candidate will be a customer centered team leader with the ability to train, manage and nurture our Box Office Staff. This part-time position requires a knowledge of Point of Sale systems, preferably in ticketing platforms. In addition, experience in, or a willingness to learn, all projection equipment is essential. Only those candidates with a proven track record of strong communication skills (both written and verbal) and a strong understanding of the movie industry or a willingness to learn, will be considered. Experience in servicing development and membership needs at the Box Office is a plus. The House Manager will work side by side with the Box Office Manager and under the supervision of the Executive Director. Weekends and evenings required.

Deadline to apply – January 10, 2014.

Administrative Support Specialist—as part of the RRT team, this part-time position will support the Business Office staff with data entry responsibilities. Experience in all Microsoft Office programs, as well as donor database software is required. Strong communication skills, both verbal and written, are also required. This person will work closely with the Executive Director to ensure that accurate and timely information is entered and reports generated. Additional clerical responsibilities will be required. Key skills include attention to detail, and a clear understanding of confidentiality. Hours will be worked weekdays with the occasional after hours event.

Deadline to apply – January 10, 2014.

RRT is a team oriented, dynamic and fast paced non-profit where all employees are expected to contribute to the mission of the Theatre. The outcome is some of the best film & discussion series, Movie Magic Events and community engagement in the New Hampshire arts scene. Red River is all about collaboration, creativity and serving our patrons at the highest level. We are the only cinema in the state where Engagement, Enlightenment and Entertainment have a regular show time.

For more information on RRT, visit our website, friend us on Facebook or drop by for a movie!

Send resume with cover letters to:

Shelly Hudson
Red River Theatres
11 South Main Street
Concord NH 03301

Or email: shudson@redriverthatres.org



NITE

Caught in Traffic

Dave Mason revisits his first band

• **Spicy sound:** Enjoy a bit of tapas and after-work jazz from **Jared Steer**, the Concord drummer who plays in a myriad of projects, including The Wayfarers, the recently disbanded Bräsbé, Donkilo Funk Orchestra and Magnificent Sanctuary Band. Steer is also one half of some interesting duos, most prominently with Tan Vampires keyboard player Mike Effenberger. See Jared Steer on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 6:30 p.m. at Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord; more at hermanosmexican.com.

• **Big man:** Plus-size comic **John Pinette** came up in the Boston comedy scene with a shtick rich in good-natured self-deprecation. His story about getting 86'd from a Chinese buffet is a classic, and Pinette's latest project riffs on the same ideas — *All You Can Eat*, a show on the H2 network about the history of American food. Writing about bacon isn't Walt Whitman, he says, but there are worse ways to pass the time. See John Pinette on Friday, Jan. 10, at 8 p.m. at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord; see ccanh.com for more.

• **Dead set:** Long Island tribute band **Half Step** performs music from the Grateful Dead and its late guitarist Jerry Garcia, using similar equipment — amps, guitars, microphones — to replicate the experience, even sequencing their sets, similar to Dead doppelgängers Dark Star Orchestra. The difference is Half Step's inclusion of Garcia's many solo works. See Half Step on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 8 p.m. at Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Tickets are \$14 at rochesteropera-house.com.

• **Prana dance:** Practice yoga to live music as **Chris Lester** performs while *Yoga Show* host Karen Kenney conducts a class that's appropriate for all levels. The guitarist is known for work with Mama Kicks; lately, he's part of power trio Monkeys With Hammers, a very entertaining band. For this show, Lester may break out a mandolin or harmonium to help the relaxation mood. See Chris Lester on Monday, Jan. 13, at 6 p.m. at NH Audubon, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord (\$15 plus artist donation). See karenkenney.com.

• **Blues wag:** In addition to playing a mean guitar, **Peter Parcek** is an astute observer of his idiom. Parcek's *Heroes of Blues Guitar*, an occasional column on his Facebook page, pays homage to everyone from Peter Green (Fleetwood Mac way before Stevie Nicks) to Magic Sam and Robert Nighthawk. He returns to Manchester to play one of his favorite haunts. See Peter Parcek on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 8 p.m. at Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St., Manchester; see strangebrewtavern.net.

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Dave Mason. Courtesy photo.

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

In 2005, Dave Mason was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame as a member of Traffic. Interestingly, a lot of fans know Mason primarily from his solo work — songs like “We Just Disagree” and “Only You Know And I Know.” Despite writing many of the band's early hits, Mason's time in Traffic was brief. He left before their 1967 debut was released and returned briefly a year later, long enough to lend the indelible “Feelin' Alright” to the band's second album.

Mason performed live with them only a handful of times, including one memorable night in Communist Budapest in front of 7,000 screaming young fans. Traffic did just two U.S. shows with him in the lineup. He did a short tour with band co-founder Jim Capaldi in 1997; the drummer died in 2005. He remains

estranged from front man Steve Winwood. The two haven't shared a stage in over 40 years, including the Rock Hall ceremony, where Mason was conspicuously absent.

But the singer/guitarist has fond memories of his first band, and a tour devoted to its music dubbed *Dave Mason's Traffic Jam* will stop in New England for a pair of dates later in the month. Mason spoke with the Hippo from his home in California.

What made you decide to launch Traffic Jam?

Well ... whatever didn't work out, I was there for the whole spawning. It's the thing that kind of kicked me into a different level of making music. I've been thinking about it for five or six years — of going back and revisiting some of these songs. Not just for my life but for the audience. Unfortunately, I can't pretend to go out there with Traffic, so it's

Dave Mason's Traffic Jam

When: Sunday, Jan. 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Flying Monkey, 39 South Main St., Plymouth

Tickets: \$39 & \$45 at flying-monkeynh.com

Also appearing Saturday, Jan. 18, at 8 p.m. at Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury, Mass.; get info at blueocean-hall.com.

Dave Mason's Traffic Jam.

What Traffic songs are you looking forward to playing?

Whether it is my songs or Traffic stuff, I essentially picked songs that were fun to do. There are certain songs that I did not pick because I don't want to be stuck doing them every year. I am going to do stuff like “Rock and Roll Stew” and “Medicated Goo” and of course “40,000 Headmen” and “Pearly Queen.”

You played with Jimi Hendrix on the session that produced “All Along the Watchtower.” Describe how the arrangement of that came about.

I wish I could; I was just there. ... I left Traffic after the first album partly because I was so young and it happened so quick that I couldn't deal with it. At the time, there was a rift going on with Noel Redding and Jimi, and there was a discussion about me joining on bass in the Experience. But as to what goes on in his mind when he did it, I don't really have much insight into the way that went. That is what he heard. ... He was pretty amazing.

Your solo sessions were often star-studded — Michael Jackson sang on one of your tracks. How did that happen?

He was cutting *Thriller* ... in the same building and I had a song called “Save Me” that I needed someone to sing a high part on. I knew Michael was over there. I thought, “You know what, he could sing high. I'll go and

ask him.” They were on a break and standing at the control room. I said, “Michael, we are in the next room doing a song, and I don't know if you're up for it but I'd love you to sing a high part.” He looked at me and said, “You know, when I was 12 years old, I did this Diana Ross special, and we finished up on the show by singing ‘Feelin' Alright.’ So yeah, absolutely, I would love to.”

That's a song with legs. When you wrote it, did you sense it would stand out the way it has?

If I knew, I would have written a whole bunch more! The reason that song did what it did was because of Joe Cocker; that's who I have to thank. Without his version, it would not have stood the test of time. I didn't write it like that. ... It's one of those songs that's timeless and very adaptable.

You've expressed hope that Traffic Jam will be the basis for others to participate — can you talk about that?

There are a few things going around like that. Maybe we could get a contemporary artist involved, have it become the basis for a revue. It's open there to do it if anyone is interested — otherwise, I will just do Dave.

Is it true that you got involved in the second Traffic album after they hit a dead end and you bumped into each other in New York City?

They had five tracks already done, and they didn't have any more material. I said, “Well I've got five songs here, guys — what do you want to do?” They said, “OK, let's cut it.” That is what happened.

Finally, is your situation with Steve Winwood still the same?

Well, as I tell everybody, you have to ask Steve Winwood. It is too bad; it's a shame. I think a lot of people would love to experience the two of us actually doing Traffic. We're the two people left. 🍷



MAN TALK

Five comedians tackle the topic of How Men Think ... Or Do They? On Saturday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. at Portsmouth Gaslight Company. Manchester comic Paul Landwehr, Al Park, Chris Pennie, Dave Rattigan and Brian Ronan give their views on wives, mothers, friends, kids, careers, neighbors, growing older, love, lust, Internet dating and other things you wouldn't believe they wasted time thinking about. 64 Market St., Portsmouth 431-9122. Tickets \$20 (\$30/door) at drinkwaterproductions.com.

Nightlife

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ECHOTONES at American Legion Post 51 (Rte. 125 across from Telly's, Epping 679-8320) on Sat., Jan. 11 at 8 p.m. \$6 - The Echotones playing good time rock-n-roll and country music! 8pm to Midnight. Hamburgers, hot dogs & chips are included in the admission. Cash Bar.

• **CHARLIE CHRISTOS** at Simple Gifts Coffeehouse (UU Church 58 Lowell St, Nashua 886-2935) on Sat., Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. \$18/door, \$16/adv. w/ \$2 off for seniors and students, \$10 for children 13 and younger.

• **LYDIA WARREN BAND** at Crossroads Coffeehouse (UU Church, 3 Great Pond Rd., North Andover, Mass. 978-687-3690) on Sat., Jan. 11 at 8 p.m. \$15 - The guitarist/singer/songwriter cut her teeth opening for blues and classic rock luminaries B.B. King, Buddy Guy, and Little Feat throughout New England, earning a Boston Music Award nomination.

• **WOMEN SINGING OUT** at Christ Episcopal Church (1035 Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth 622-0907) on Sat., Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. \$15, \$12 Seniors and Students - 'It Takes A Village' concert with an eclectic array of songs, audience sing-along and piano solos by accompanist, Kim Karchanges.

• **BENEFIT CONCERT** at Moose Lodge 443 (45 Chestnut St., Dover 742-4792) on Sat., Jan. 11 at 12 p.m. \$12 (2/\$20) Classic rockers American Made performing with several other bands to raise money for 2 year old boy born with congenital heart defect.

• **TARA GREENBLATT BAND & FOLKSOUL** at George's Window (25 Roxbury St., Keene 499-7435) on Sat., Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. \$12 includes dinner from Alan Crofut of Unbridled Chocolates. Harmony group Folksoul Ensemble and Tara Greenblatt, her soulful, soaring voice and highly skilled ability at bringing the whispers, swipes, brushed beats, and calls out of the djembe drum.

• **ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE** at Presidential Oaks (200 Pleasant St., Concord

397-0042) on Sun., Jan. 12 at 5:30 p.m. \$8/door - Traditional dances from England and contemporary dances in the "Playford" style, with live music. All dances are taught with a walk through and called by dance leader.

• **NH GAY MEN'S CHORUS** at Wesley United Methodist Church (79 Clinton St., Concord 644-6274) on Sun., Jan. 12 at 4 p.m. Makeup date for canceled Dec. 14 show - Sarah Chadwick sings "The Rose," other beautiful ballads and fun, whimsical tunes celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, and other holiday traditions.

• **CHRIS LESTER & YOGA** at NH Audobon (84 Silk Farm Rd., Concord 224-9909) on Mon., Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. \$15 + artist donation - This is a wonderful opportunity to experience the magic of practicing yoga to live music. Chris shares his own special evening of Acoustic Asana - he's been a professional musician for the past 25 years.

• **NEW HAMPSHIRE SONGS & STORIES** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford 249-0645) on Tue., Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. Don Watson's music has been compared to John Denver, Jim Croce and Dan Fogelberg. His newest project is a collection of songs based on people, places and events of the Granite State.

• **CHRIS SMITHER** at Peterborough Players Theater (55 Hadley Road, Peterborough 924-9344) on Sat., Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. Tickets \$20 - \$25. Call 827-2905; visit pfnconcerts.org.

• **JENNIFER SHEEHAN** at Peterborough Historical Society (19 Grove St., Peterborough 924-3235) on Sat., Jan. 18 at 6 p.m. \$30 - "I Know A Place" is a musical journey that reminds some of us and reveals to others why the '60s is still where it's at, a very hip and happening place to visit, even if even if only for one night.

• **DARTMOUTH GOSPEL CHOIR** at Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord 344-4747) on Sun., Jan. 19 at 3 p.m. \$18 - The choir fills and rocks their houses, from Presi-

dent Obama's Inaugural Breakfast to NH's North Country. Sunday matinee is a special event for MLK holiday weekend.

• **UNH TRADITIONAL JAZZ SERIES** at Paul Creative Arts Center (30 Academic Way, Durham 862-2404) on Tue., Jan. 21 at 8 p.m. \$8/GA, \$6/students - Department of Music presents the Harry Jones Memorial Concert featuring the Seacoast Big Band, under the direction of David Seiler.

• **DEPUE BROTHERS BAND** at Elm Street Middle School (117 Elm St., Nashua 318-1792) on Thu., Jan. 23 at 8 p.m. \$28/\$11.50 Students - These four violinist brothers encompass a vivid blend of bluegrass, classical, and rock genres. DePue Brothers are a musical powerhouse.

• **JOHN KORDALEWSKI TRIO** at Peterborough Historical Society (19 Grove St., Peterborough 924-3235) on Sun., Jan. 26 at 3 p.m. \$15 - Concert of the Great Jazz Pianist-Composers beginning with the masters of the bebop era and progressing through modernists such as McCoy Tyner, Kenny Barron, and Mulgrew Miller.

• **YALE WHIFFENPOOFS** at Kingswood Arts Center (21 McManus Road, Wolfeboro 569-7710) on Sun., Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. \$20 - The world's oldest and best-known collegiate a cappella group perform everything from the traditional Yale fight song to jazz standards to Motown and original arrangements.

• **CAFÉ 58 CD RELEASE PARTY** at Claremont Opera House (Opera House Square, Claremont 542-4433) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. \$10 - Complimentary coffee, tea and pastries celebrating new CD from local singer/songwriter and piano player John Lovejoy

• **COUNTRY JAMBOREE** at Claremont Opera House (Opera House Square, Claremont 542-4433) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. The music of Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Tammy Wynette, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn and more - like spending an evening at The Grand Ole Opry.



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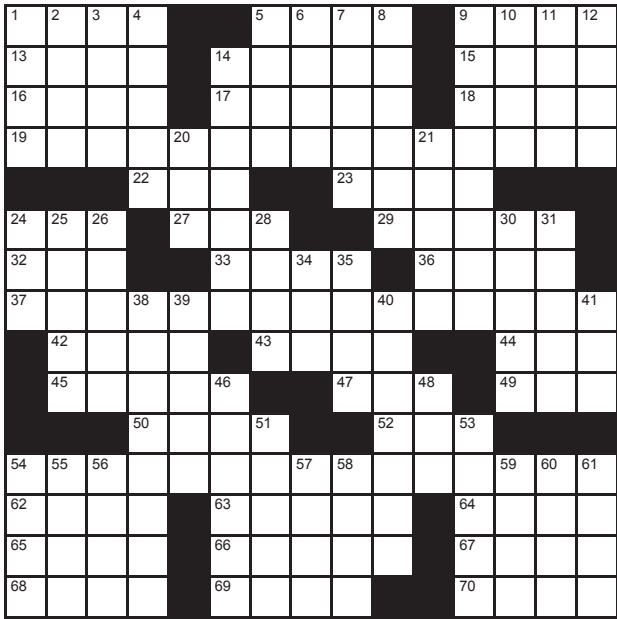
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- 15. ‘Son Of The Wind’ Guthrie
- 16. Squeeze ‘___ The Dance Floor’
- 17. Incubus ‘___ Box’
- 18. What rocker gets backstage, besides booze
- 19. Dan Fogelberg classic (6,2,3,4) ??
- 22. Adam ___
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 Bail Out

Manchester
Breezeway Pub: DJ Mckay NRG Dance
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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK



50 YEARS AGO

Focusing on sweet spot of Beatlemania, 1964: The Tribute returns to the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester 668-5588) on Sunday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. Called "The Number One Beatles Tribute in the World" by Rolling Stone Magazine, this version of the Faux Four recreate the moments from the Ed Sullivan Show through to Shea Stadium and Candlestick Park, perfectly recreating the early Beatles songs, onstage patter and their look — from their custom suits and Beatle Boots to their vintage guitars. Tickets are \$38 at palacetheatre.org.

Shaskeen: Lucid
Strange Brew: Snakestretchers
Wild Rover: Live Music

Merrimack
Homestead: Brian Gray

Milford
Clark's: Karen Grenier

Nashua
Amsterdam: Jimmy D
Arena: Live Music / DJ Danjah
Arena: Dueling Pianos
Country Tavern: Olde Salt
Fody's: Live Music
Killarney's: Mike Moore

New Boston
Molly's: Dominique/Tom Keating (Tavern)

Newmarket
Stone Church: Royal Hammer

Peterborough
Harlow's: shokazoba

Plaistow
Sad Café: The Poison Girls Club

Portsmouth
British Beer Co.: D-Comp Trio

Dolphin Striker: Power Money
Cae
Gas Light: Live Music
Hilton Garden: Dave Gerard
Press Room: Gretchen & the Pickpockets
Red Door: K.C. Hallett
Ri Ra: Live Music
Rudi's: Duke w/ John Hunter
Rusty Hammer: Live Music
Thirsty Moose: Todo Bien with Stop Tito

Salem
Black Water Grill: Rick Breton & Crew

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Live Band

Sunapee
Sunapee Coffee House: John Fuzek

Saturday, Jan. 11
Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: Eric Grant Band

Boscawen
Alan's: Doug Mitchell

Concord
Hermanos: Killough/Weisman

Jazz Guitar Duo
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: Live Music

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brick House: Kate Redgate
Fury's: Somerville Symphony Orkestar w/ Harsh Armadillo
Kelley's Row: SoulMate Band
Sonny's: Rockabilly Riot w/ Whiskey Kill/Leah & her Jay Walkers

Epping
Holy Grail: Julie Dougherty

Epsom
Circle 9: Karen Morgan & Pony Express

Gilford
Patrick's: Whiskey Geese

Hampstead
Pasta Loft Brickhouse: Live Music
Village Square: Local Live Music

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Diezel

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COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, Jan. 9
Derry
Halligan Tavern:
Comedy Central's Dan Soder

Nashua
Fody's: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, Jan. 10
Concord
Capitol Center: John Pinette

Raymond
Veronica Laffs: Jay Grove/Rob Steen (Norrock Football Benefit)

Saturday, Jan. 11
Manchester
Headliners: Paul Nardizzi, Joey Carroll

Nashua
Arena: Comedy Night

Portsmouth
Portsmouth Gas Light: How Men Think w/ Dave Rattin-gan & 4 more

Raymond
Veronica Laffs: Steve Scarfo/Matt Barry

Tuesday, Jan. 14
Dover
Cara: Tip Jar Comedy w/ Jay Grove

Wednesday, Jan. 5
Manchester
Murphy's Taproom: Laugh Free or Die Open Mic

Shaskeen: Open Mic & Nick Lavallee/Ben Phelps

Seabrook
Honey Pot: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Thursday, Jan. 16
Derry
Halligan Tavern: Jesse Bickford w/ Wes Hazard

Hudson
Soho: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, Jan. 17
Londonderry
Tupelo: Mike Hanley and Orlando Baxter

Saturday, Jan. 18
Keene
Colonial Theatre: Robbie Printz/Rob Steen/Will Noonan

Laconia
Pitman's: Frank Santorelli/Karen Fitzgerald

Manchester
Headliners: Tom Hayes w/ Will Noonan

Nashua
Arena: Comedy Night

Portsmouth
Pearl: Jim Lauletta and Orlando Baxter

Tuesday, Jan. 21
Dover
Cara: Jay Grove



NATIVE SON

Local singer songwriter Charlie Christos performs solo at Simple Gifts Coffee House (UU Church, 58 Lowell St, Nashua) on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m. Christos's second album, the alt-folk Widow's Gun, broke into the top 200 on the AMA Radio Charts in 2010.

He's also performed, arranged, and recorded with multi-platinum Grammy winning artist Serj Tankian (System of a Down), and was the featured guitarist in the rock musical Prometheus Bound.

Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for 13 and under) at uunashua.org.

Henniker

Sled Pub: Nick's Other Band

Hooksett

Asian Breeze: Live Music
Tap House Grille: Live Band

Kingston

Bucco's: Live Music

Laconia

Baja Beach Club: DJ
Pitman's Freight Room:
Dance Night: Arthur James
Blues Band

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Tom Rousseau
Whippersnappers: Wildfire

Manchester

British Beer Company:
Timothy Paul Band
City Sports Grille: Talon
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh
Band
Element: Dance Party with DJ
Smallz
Fratello's Manchester: Paul
Luff
ManchVegas: Live Rock Music
Midnight Rodeo: Boys of
Rockingham
Milly's: Live Music
Murphy's Taproom: FUAR
Bar & Mugsy
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz
Penuche's: Chromatropic w/
DJ SPI

Raxx:

DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Supermachine,
Gozu, Birch Hill Dam
Strange Brew: Johnny & the
Two-Timers
Wild Rover: Live Music

Merrimack

Homestead: Steve Tolley

Nashua

Amsterdam: Justin Jordan/
Michael Robert Todd (Acoustic
Session)
Boston Billiard Club: DJ
Anthem Throwback
Fody's: Jive Kats
Killarney's: Josh & Brandon
Stella Blu: Gary Lopez

New Boston

Molly's: John C/Tore Down
House (Tavern)

Newmarket

Stone Church: The Demon,
Miss Fairchild, and The Fear-
less Ones

Peterborough

Harlow's: Hayley Jane and the
Primates

Plaistow

Sad Café: Charlotte Locke

Portsmouth

British Beer Co.: Natalie
Turgeon Band

Dolphin Striker:

The Velvis
Underground
Gas Light: Live Music
Hilton Garden: Jerry Short
Red Door: Mike Swells
Ri Ra: Live Music
Rudi's: PJ Donahue Trio
Thirsty Moose: Bearfight

Salem

Black Water Grill: Live Music
Sayde's: Mugshot
Seabrook
Chop Shop: Live Band

Weare

Boondocks: DJ Bernie D

Sunday, Jan. 12

Bedford

Copper Door: Cosmo Funday
Live Music

Concord

Hermanos: State St. Combo

Dover

Brick House: Live Jazz Brunch
with Jim Dozet Trio
Sonny's: Kurt Weill Night

Hudson

JD Chaser's: The After party -
w/Jim Bishop & Chris Camern
Comedy

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: Kim Riley
& G

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK



BIG ROCK

Built around a pair of former Scissorfight members, Supermachine tops a three-band lineup at Shaskeen Pub on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 9 p.m. The Southern NH quartet plays heavy music, the kind that shakes wall and rattles dental work, and their 2013 debut S/T is a raucous affair. Also appearing are Boston-based Gozu, led by singer/guitarist Matt Gaffney, who boasts of having "the pipes Chris Cornell used to possess before he started modeling men's cologne," and fellow thud rockers Birch Hill Dam. 909 Elm St. 625-0246.

Manchester

Milly's: DJ
Murphy's Taproom: FUAR Bar
Raxx: Rock Concert: Soday happened, Zanois, American Mixer
Shaskeen: Rap night, Industry night
Social 24: Sunday Funday Winter Jam Sessions
Strange Brew: John & Howard
Thrifty's: Acoustic Concert: Rachel Baker, Amanda McCarthy, Ian St. Croix

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Press Room: JBC Trio
Red Door: Hush Hush Sweet Harlot
Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, Jan. 14 Concord

Barley House: Irish Sessions
Hermanos: Kid Pinky

Dover

Cara: Open Bluegrass/Americana
Fury's: Tim Theriault and Friends
Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester

Fratello's Manchester: Chris Cavanaugh
Milly's: Live Music
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Brett Wilson
Strange Brew: Peter Parcek

Merrimack

Homestead: Paul Luff

Newmarket

Stone Church: Bluegrass Jam w/Dave Talmage

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Honky Tonk Tuesdays
Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Press Room: Larry Garland Jazz Jam

Wednesday, Jan. 15 Concord

Hermanos: Paul Heckel

Dover

Fury's: Red Sky Mary

Sonny's: Jazzputin & the Jug Skunks

Gilford

Patrick's: Corey Brackett

Hampton

Wally's Pub: 90's Dance party w/DJ Provo

Manchester

City Sports Grille: Rock Logic
Fratello's Manchester: Paul Luff
Milly's: DJ
Strange Brew: Lisa Marie

Merrimack

Homestead: Brian Gray

Milford

Clark's: Lisa Guyer
J's Tavern: Eric Neilson

Nashua

Amsterdam: Brad Bosse
Bernie's: Our Last Night, A Loss For Words, My Ticket Home, Carousel
Killarney's: Kieran McNally
Wicked Twisted: Wicked Twisted Blues Band Jam

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Press Room: Elissa Margolin
Red Door: Evaredy Ladies Night
Ri Ra: Live Music
Rudi's: Mike Effenberger
Thirsty Moose: Ghost Dinner Band

Weare

Boondocks: Blues Jam w/Paul Spera, Junie Belanger & Mickey McGuire

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GET THE CROWDS AT YOUR GIG

Want to get your show listed in the Music This Week? Let us know all about your upcoming show, comedy show, open mike night or multi-band event by sending all the information to music@hippopress.com. Send information by 9 a.m. on Friday to have the event considered for the next Thursday's paper.

NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casino-ballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org
Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass.,

www.lowellsummermusic.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddleh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, the-music-hall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Road, Francetown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittmore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, whittcenter.com

- **Cherry Poppin' Daddies** Fri., Jan. 10 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Keller Williams** Fri., Jan. 10 at 8, Tupelo
- **Remember The 50's** Fri., Jan. 10 at 7, Stockbridge Theatre
- **Recycled Percussion** Sat., Jan. 11 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Sat., Jan. 11 at 7, Cap Center
- **Beatlejuice** Sat., Jan. 11 at 8, Tupelo
- **Half Step (Dead/Garcia Tribute)** Sat., Jan. 11 at 8, Rochester Opera House
- **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Sat., Jan. 11 at 7, Cap Center
- **April Verch** Thu., Jan. 16 at 7, Franklin Opera House
- **Recycled Percussion** Thu., Jan. 16 at 8, Music Hall
- **Comedy with Mike Hanley & Orlando Baxter** Fri., Jan. 17 at 8, Tupelo
- **Meklit (Sold Out)** Fri., Jan. 17 at 8, Music Hall
- **Caravan of Thieves** Sat., Jan. 18 at 8, Music Hall
- **Marc Cohn** Sat., Jan. 18 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Lyle Lovett/John Hiatt** Sat., Jan. 18 at 8, Cap Center
- **Alternate Routes** Sat., Jan. 18 at 8, Tupelo
- **Dave Mason's Traffic Jam** Sun., Jan. 19 at 7:30, Flying

- Monkey
- **1964: The Tribute** Sun., Jan. 19 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Michael Schenker** Tue., Jan. 21 at 8, Tupelo
- **Sister Hazel** Thu., Jan. 23 at 8, Tupelo
- **Upright Citizens Brigade** Fri., Jan. 24 at 7, Cap Center
- **Sister Hazel Acoustic** Fri., Jan. 24 at 8, Tupelo
- **Paula Cole** Sat., Jan. 25 at 8, Tupelo
- **Darwin's Waiting Room** Sat., Jan. 25 at 8, Music Hall
- **Marshall Crenshaw with The Bottle Rockets** Sun., Jan. 26 at 8, Tupelo
- **Michael Cooper (Mime/Visual Artist)** Sun., Jan. 26 at 1, Cap Center
- **NRBQ** Thu., Jan. 30 at 8, Tupelo
- **Bela Fleck and Brooklyn Rider** Thu., Jan. 30 at 7:30, Dana Center
- **Bela Fleck with Brooklyn Rider** Fri., Jan. 31 at 8, Colonial Theatre
- **Darlingside** Fri., Jan. 31 at 8, Music Hall
- **Bruce In The USA (Springsteen Cover Band)** Fri., Jan. 31 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Max Creek** Fri., Jan. 31 at 8, Tupelo

- **Peacheaters & Playin' Dead** Sat., Feb. 1 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Melissa Ferrick** Sat., Feb. 1 at 8, Tupelo
- **Capitol Steps** Sat., Feb. 1 at 8, Music Hall
- **Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherman** Wed., Feb. 5 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Open Mic Celebrity Series** Featuring Mary Lou Lord Thu., Feb. 6 at 8, Tupelo
- **Red Hot Chili Pipers** Thu., Feb. 6 at 7:30, Cap Center
- **Sharon Isbin, Stanley Jordan & Romero Lubambo** Thu., Feb. 6 at 8, Music Hall
- **Bill Cosby** Fri., Feb. 7 at 8, Cap Center
- **James Montgomery Band** Fri., Feb. 7 at 8, Tupelo
- **Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes** Fri., Feb. 7 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Motor Booty Affair** Fri., Feb. 7 at 8, Rochester Opera House
- **Lori McKenna** Sat., Feb. 8 at 8, Silver Center
- **Steve Blunt** Sat., Feb. 8 at 12, Tupelo
- **Comedy-Rich Ceisler/Marty Kelly** Sat., Feb. 8 at 8, Tupelo
- **Bill Cosby** Sun., Feb. 9 at 7:30, Cap Center

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**Sun.,
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NRBQ



Thurs., January 30
8:00 p.m. • \$25 • GA

MAX CREEK



Fri., January 31
8:00 p.m. • \$25 • GA

MELISSA FERRICK



**Sat.,
February 1**

8:00 p.m.
\$25
GA

JAMES MONTGOMERY BAND



**Fri.,
February 7**

8:00 p.m.
\$25
GA

STEVE BLUNT & MARTY KELLEY

Children's Show!



**Sat.,
February 8**

12:00 p.m.
\$7
GA

NIGHT OF COMEDY

Featuring Rich Ceisler, Will Noonan & Benjamin Tufts



**Sat.,
February 8**

8:00 p.m.
\$18
RS-Tables

RICK DERRINGER



Fri., February 14

8:00 p.m. • \$40 • RS-Theater

FRANCIS DUNNERY



Sat., March 8

8:00 p.m. • \$25 • RS-Tables



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SIGNS OF LIFE

Quotes are from *Bright Lights, Big City*, by Jay McInerney, born Jan. 13, 1955.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *You are leaning back against a post that may or may not be structural with regard to the building, but which feels essential to your own maintenance of an upright position. If it's not sturdy, don't lean against it.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *You navigate the linoleum to the Department of Factual Verification. Directly across the hall is Clara's office, the door of which is almost always open so that all who come and go from the kingdom of facts must pass her scrutiny. She is torn between her desire for privacy, with all the honors, privileges, et cetera, appertaining to her post, and her desire to keep a sharp eye on her domain. Don't let competing desires trip you up.*

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *The phrase 'last-ditch effort' jumps out from the column of print in front of you. It makes you ashamed of yourself. You think of the Greeks at Thermopylae, the Texans at the Alamo, John Paul Jones in his leaky tub. You can do it.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *As long as one is at one's desk by ten-thirty, one is relatively safe. Somehow you manage to miss this banker's deadline at least once a week. Set your alarm a little earlier.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *You see yourself as the kind of guy who wakes up early on Sunday morning and steps out to cop the Times and croissants. Who might take a cue from the Arts and Leisure section and decide to check out an exhibition—costumes of the Hapsburg Court at the Met, say, or Japanese lacquerware of the Muromachi period at the Asia Society. You want to be a croissant kind of guy? Go*

get some croissants.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *You have not followed procedure. You have used pen where you should have used pencil, red pencil where you should have used blue. Take note: The procedures are there for a reason.*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *Tad's mission in life is to have more fun than anyone else in New York City, and this involves a lot of moving around, since there is always the likelihood that where you aren't is more fun than where you are. And there always will be, so stop chasing.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *Megan makes honesty seem like a viable alternative. She is a person who could give lessons in sanity. Why have you never confided in her before? Choose friends carefully.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *Just now you want to stay at the surface of things, and Tad is a figure skater who never considers the sharks under the ice. Have fun skating but watch out for thin ice.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *Meanwhile, the Fiction people are none too thrilled when you inform them that a story which contains a fly-fishing scene incorrectly has a hatch of Sulfur Duns occurring on a stream in Oregon where, in fact, no Sulfur Duns have ever hatched. Don't forget to do an occasional reality check.*

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov. 21) *Tad is the kind of guy who would be at a place like this at this time of the morning. He is either your best self or your worst self, you're not sure which. Be your best self!*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *You try to settle down to an article about the French elections. It is your job to make sure that there are no errors of fact or spelling. In this case the facts are so confused as to suck you deep into vast regions of interpretation. Stick to the facts and you'll do fine.*

NITE SUDOKU Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			5		8			
			9		7			
9		8				6		3
4	8						7	2
				4				
7	2						1	9
1		2				5		7
			2		3			
			8		1			

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

SU DO KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

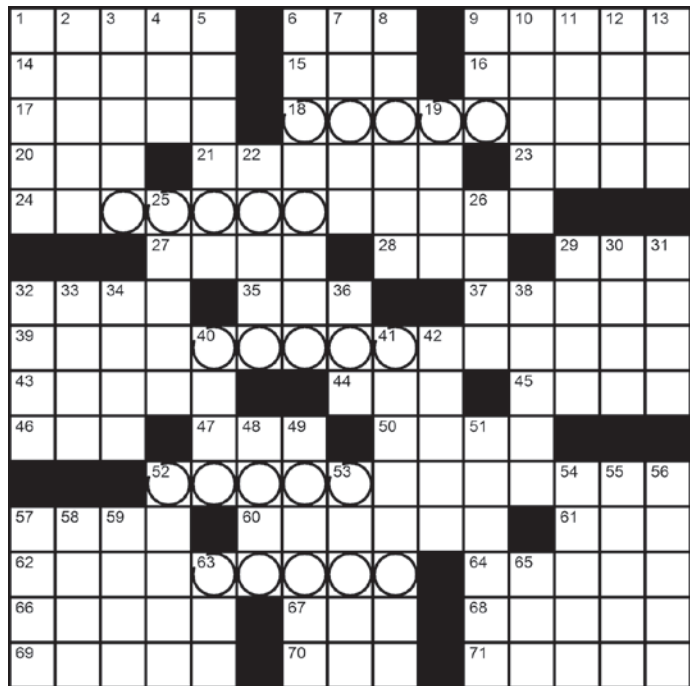
1/02

5	8	7	9	2	4	1	3	6
2	6	1	8	7	3	9	5	4
9	4	3	6	5	1	2	8	7
7	5	2	1	4	6	8	9	3
3	1	6	5	9	8	4	7	2
8	9	4	2	3	7	5	6	1
1	3	9	4	6	5	7	2	8
6	2	8	7	1	9	3	4	5
4	7	5	3	8	2	6	1	9

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“Full Houses” — a pair plus three of a kind, and no Uncle Jesse

- Across**
- 1 Camera setting
 - 6 Play around with some music
 - 9 Bar display
 - 14 1986 Indy 500 champ Bobby
 - 15 Prefix with scope or sclerosis
 - 16 Last in a Greek series
 - 17 Hill in a 1991 hearing
 - 18 Howard Stern’s producer/sidekick
 - 20 Emmy-winning scientist Bill
 - 21 Leachman of “Young Frankenstein”
 - 23 “Go back” computer command



- 24 Ground-water separator?
- 27 Since
- 28 Go to brunch
- 29 Day, to Don Quixote
- 32 Abbr. on a mountain peak sign
- 35 Fresh, in Frankfurt
- 37 “Bye Bye Bye” band, 2000
- 39 Pest
- 43 Language that gave us “kiwi”
- 44 Phoenix-to-Vancouver dir.
- 45 Photographer Geddes
- 46 2013 and 2014, e.g.
- 47 Curvy shape
- 50 Phobia
- 52 Appetizer trays at a luau
- 57 Bravo precursor
- 60 Kindle buys
- 61 Dennis’s sister on “It’s Always



- Sunny”
- 62 Rapper who dropped part of his name after 2001’s “Doggy Bag”
- 64 Fireplace nook
- 66 City of central Florida
- 67 Ginger ____
- 68 “Wall Street” theme
- 69 SATB section
- 70 Gen-____ (Millennial)
- 71 Disgusting

Down

- 1 Swiss cash
- 2 Big name in consumer electronics
- 3 Man of steal?
- 4 Cereal grain
- 5 Yell on the set before “curtain up”
- 6 Posting sought by some seekers
- 7 “Asteroids” game company
- 8 Cell
- 9 Melodramatic sound
- 10 Love, French-style
- 11 Kings of ____
- 12 Like some cheddar
- 13 “The Banana Boat Song” opening
- 19 “The Thin Man” dog
- 22 “Jurassic Park III” star Tea
- 25 Noisemaker or party hat
- 26 Mountain on the Mediterranean
- 29 Bob Dylan’s “In My Time of

- 30 Get ____ the ground floor
- 31 Face trouble
- 32 Soap-making award?
- 33 “I don’t believe you!”
- 34 “Dukes of Hazzard” deputy
- 36 Tea server
- 38 Begin
- 40 Modern waltz violinist Andre
- 41 Blooming
- 42 Make a slight adjustment to
- 48 Gush
- 49 Chain pitched by Michael Phelps
- 51 Punctuation in an e-mail address
- 52 Nobel-winning poet Neruda
- 53 Good surname for a lifeguard?
- 54 They may be sanded down
- 55 Get new tenants
- 56 Broken-down
- 57 “I get that ____”
- 58 Hair scare
- 59 Dessert after paella
- 63 Paddle cousin
- 65 Org. for shooters

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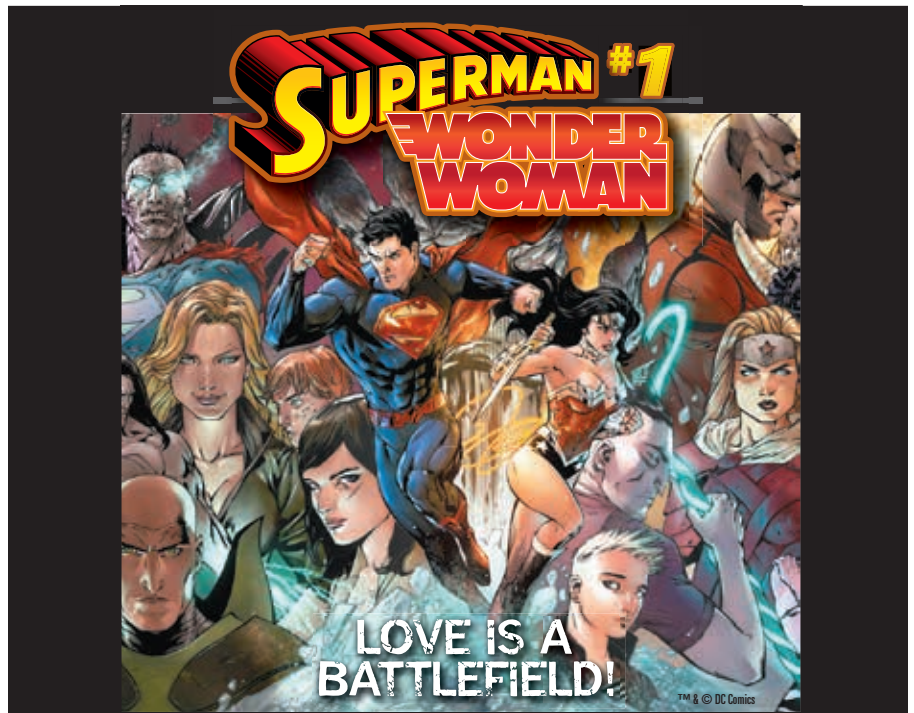
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|--|---|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoulder Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Upper Back Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle Spasms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arm Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Back Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Foot Problems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hip Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Sciatic Leg Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Numbness of Hands & Feet |

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Robo medicine

At least two U.S. medical schools so far are early adopters of Dr. Benjamin Lok's and Dr. Carla Pugh's "Robot Butt" for teaching doctors-in-training to properly (and compassionately) administer prostate exams. The robot, bent over a desk to simulate the patient profile, has sensors to alert the students if they dig too deeply or quickly for comfort. Other sensors enable a check on eye contact to evaluate "bedside manner."

The continuing crisis

• Homeless man James Brady had his New Jersey state benefits cut off in October for "hiding" income. He had found \$850 on a sidewalk in April and turned it in; when no one came forward, it was returned to him, though he was unaware that he needed to report it as "income."

• A 16-year-old Fox Chapel, Pa., boy realized at a football game in September that he was inadvertently carrying a pocket knife and conscientiously turned it in to a security guard — which earned him a 10-day school suspension. The school's "zero tolerance" rule, said the boy's father, "sends a message (that) you should probably lie."

• Betty Green was fired as clerk at the Speedway gas station in Lexington, Ky., in November when she "just said no" to an armed robber, who smiled and walked out. Company rules require always giving up the money. Said Green, "I don't think anybody knows what you are going to do until it happens to you."

• In November, the senior class president of Northwest Christian University in Eugene, Ore., "came out" — as an atheist. Eric Fromm, 21, is apparently popular on campus, and an ABC News report revealed that he was under no pressure to resign or drop out. Said the director of university relations, "All of our students are on a journey. ... We as an institution meet students where they are at." Fromm said he was impressed with the school right from his initial visit. "No one was speaking in tongues or handling snakes, so I decided to stay."

Bright ideas

• The vandalism of Marion County High School in Jasper, Tenn., on the eve of a big football game in November was not, after all, the work of arch-rival South Pittsburg — notwithstanding the clues. The South Pittsburg markings were apparently made by Marion County teacher-coach Michael Schmitt, who was arrested. He told officers he was only trying to inspire the team (which lost anyway, 35-17).

• Police in Urunga, Australia, charged teacher Andrew Minisini in December with taking three female students to a motel, giv-

ing them alcohol and seducing them into vandalizing the residence of one of Minisini's former colleague rivals.

• A government-subsidized, foundation-supported program for alcoholics in Amsterdam announced a "welfare"/"work" program offering the city's drunks the equivalent of about \$14 a day — and five free cans of beer — for several hours of street-cleaning. Some beneficiaries told London's The Independent, in a November dispatch, that, of course, they intended to use the cash to buy even more beer.

Democracy blues

In November, Dave Wilson, a white conservative candidate for the board of the Houston Community College System, pulled off an astonishing victory over the African-American incumbent, by distributing campaign materials that made him — Wilson — appear to be black and thus the favorite of African-Americans. Wilson's brochures depicting black "supporters" were all, he later said, copied from the Internet.

People with issues

• A condominium association in Niles, Ill., is debating whether to pursue Norman Kazmierski since he has now moved. As a resident, he was accused of keying cars, egging hallways, disabling the emergency sprinkler system, and leaving several pounds of excrement in buildings in protest of alleged mistreatment. The association said it all started when one resident asked Kazmierski to please park his car between the lines so that parking spaces could be used more efficiently.

• Police in Mayville, Wis., arrested John Grant, 42, in November for shooting his wife, Nicole, three times with a Taser gun. The couple tried to explain that Nicole (Green Bay Packers fan) had bet John (Chicago Bears fan) on the game, with the winner getting to Taser the loser (although she sheepishly said later that she didn't think John would actually shoot her). (According to breath tests, neither of the Grants could have lawfully driven a car.)

Suspicious confirmed

During the September Guantanamo Bay trial of five people charged in connection in the 9/11 attacks, defense lawyers continued to complain that their "confidential" client information was being leaked from the poorly secured "classified" Pentagon computer network. Said the lead defense counsel (Air Force Col. Karen Mayberry), the normal Department of Defense "classified" network is so porous that she has been forced to use the Wi-Fi at the local Guantanamo Starbucks, which she regards as more secure.

Armed & clumsy

Awkward wounds: A Columbia, Mo., man shot in the "posterior" while removing his gun from his back pocket (May); a 23-year-old man, Charleston, W.Va., shot in the groin while holstering his weapon (August); a 43-year-old man, Norfolk, Va., shot in the groin while waving his gun at a speeding driver (August).

For more News of the Weird visit news-of-the-weird.universe.net.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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